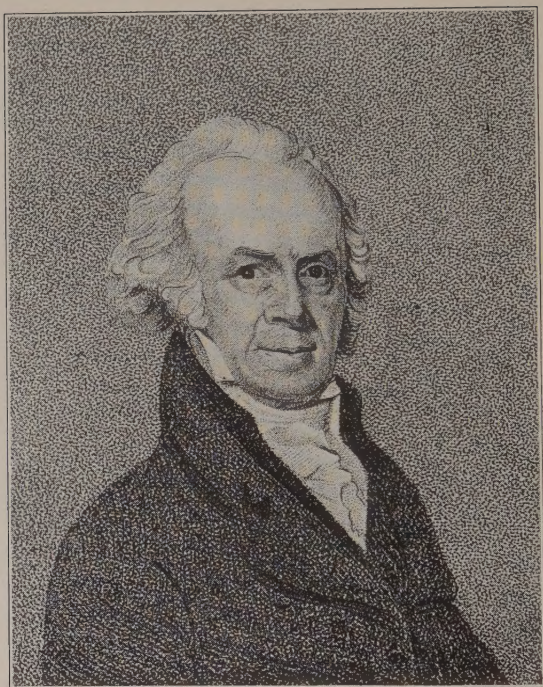




ISAIAH THOMAS

Grand High Priest 1806-1808, Grand R. A. Chapter of Massachusetts

Centennial Memorial
of
Thomas Royal Arch Chapter

Fitchburg, Massachusetts

1821—1921

PREPARED BY
COMPANION FREDERICK A. CURRIER

FITCHBURG
PUBLISHED BY THE CHAPTER
1923

To each man is given a day and his work for the day
And once and no more is he given to travel this way.
And woe if he flees from the task, whatever the odds,
For the task is appointed to him on the scroll of the Gods.
There is waiting a work, where only his hand can avail
And so if he falters, a chord in the music will fail.
He may laugh to the sky, he may lay for an hour in the sun
But he dare not go hence till the labor appointed is done.

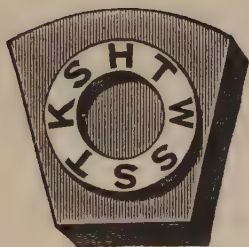
CONTENTS

	PAGE
Programme of Centennial Exercises	6
Address of High Priest Richard S. Tucker	11
Historical Address, Companion Frederick A. Currier	13
List of High Priests	98
Candidates and Membership List, Royal Arch Degree	100
Organization of Chapter, 1922-23	112
Masonic Calendar	113

One Hundredth Anniversary

THOMAS ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS



RICHARD S. TUCKER

High Priest

JOHN F. WIDLUND

King

LEON C. BARNES

Scribe

Saturday, December Tenth

Opening of Chapter

Reception to Grand Officers

Invocation

Companion and Rev. Francis W. Gibbs

Selection—"Onward, March"

Geibel

Pilgrim Quartet

Address of Welcome

Excellent Richard S. Tucker, High Priest

Solo for Tenor—"Beloved, It Is Morn"

Aylward

Address

Right Excellent Charles E. Prior, Grand Scribe

Selection—"Sunset"

Van de Water

Pilgrim Quartet

Address

Right Excellent Leon M. Abbott, Grand King

Solo for Bass—"The Mariner's Home's the Sea" *Randegger*

Historical Address

Companion Frederick A. Currier, Secretary

Selection—"Eternity"

Arranged

Pilgrim Quartet

Closing

Organist—Companion John A. Arnold

MENU

Olives

Salted Nuts

Fruit Cocktail

Boiled Salmon

Green Peas

Roast Vermont Turkey

Old-Fashioned Dressing

Brown Gravy

Cranberry Sauce

Mashed Potatoes

Creamed Onions

Lobster Salad

Parker House Rolls

Redland Roll

Macaroons

Assorted Cake

Coffee

Sunday, December Eleventh

ORDER OF SERVICE, FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Two-Thirty O'Clock

Organ Prelude

Doxology

Lord's Prayer

Selection—"Holy Father, Cheer Our Way"

Huhn

Choir

Responsive Reading—Selection 2, Book of Common Worship

Led by the Chaplain

Gloria

Choir

Scripture Reading

Rev. Howard A. Pease

Selection—"Let My Prayer Be Set Forth"

Woodman

Choir

Prayer

Rev. Francis W. Gibbs

Selection—"Now the Day Is Over"

Speaks

Choir

Congregational Hymn—Selection 542

Address—"The Light of Capitular Masonry"

R. Perry Bush, D.D., Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Mass.

Congregational Hymn—Selection 286

Benediction

Rev. Howard A. Pease

Sentence—"Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace"

Choir

Organ Postlude

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Ex. F. A. Bliss, *Chairman*
 Ex. N. E. Metcalf
 Ex. T. H. Crane
 Ex. George H. Priest
 Ex. William A. Pearce
 Ex. H. F. Allen
 Ex. G. W. Bigelow
 Ex. Charles W. Godfrey
 Ex. C. L. Trowbridge
 Ex. F. A. Watson
 Ex. A. E. Perkins

Ex. John G. Faxon
 Ex. Ernest L. Whitney
 Ex. William A. Robbins
 Ex. W. W. Henry
 Ex. Fred A. Young
 Ex. G. Burton Lord
 Ex. Edward A. A. Lamere
 Ex. James C. Eteson
 Ex. Richard S. Tucker
 Comp. John F. Widlund
 Comp. Leon C. Barnes

RECEPTION

Ex. William A. Robbins, *Chairman*
 Ex. Fred A. Young
 Ex. G. Burton Lord
 Ex. F. A. Bliss

Ex. Edward A. A. Lamere
 Ex. James C. Eteson
 Ex. Richard S. Tucker
 Ex. Charles W. Godfrey

ENTERTAINMENT

Ex. Fred A. Young, *Chairman*
 Comp. W. H. Cropper

Comp. A. E. Harper
 Comp. E. B. Richardson

REFRESHMENTS

Ex. Edward A. A. Lamere
 Comp. John F. Widlund

Comp. J. H. Kibling
 Comp. Leon C. Barnes

DECORATIONS

Ex. George H. Priest

Comp. W. H. Ritter

COMMITTEE TO MEET GRAND OFFICERS

Ex. C. W. Godfrey, *Chairman*
 Ex. John G. Faxon
 Comp. C. Willis Bennett
 Comp. W. A. Hardy

Comp. F. H. Foss
 Comp. Rolfe W. Smith
 Comp. Harry Sturtevant
 Comp. John B. Fellows

USHERS

Ex. Fred A. Watson, *Chairman*
 Comp. Alfred Woolacott
 Comp. Harry W. Dole
 Comp. Frank E. Robinson
 Comp. Roy H. Ryder
 Comp. Edward A. Moore
 Comp. Harold H. Starkey

Comp. Milton H. Abell
 Comp. William Cairns
 Comp. William L. Walker
 Comp. Harry E. Rogers
 Comp. Ashton D. Ross
 Comp. Willard W. Jones

PRINTING

Ex. C. L. Trowbridge, *Chairman*
 Ex. A. E. Perkins
 Ex. G. W. Bigelow

Ex. E. L. Whitney
 Ex. William A. Pearce

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter in observance of the Hundredth Anniversary of its organization held a Special Convocation at Masonic Hall, Fitchburg, Mass., on Saturday, December 10, 1921. One hundred and fifty Companions were present.

The Masonic Apartments were beautifully decorated with palms and flowering plants. At the east of the hall was a fine portrait of Most Excellent Companion Rev. Samuel Clarke, the first High Priest of Thomas Chapter. This picture, the gift to the Chapter from Ex. Companion Richard S. Tucker, is a copy of the only known likeness of the one member of Thomas Chapter elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

The Grand Chapter was represented by R. Excellent Charles E. Prior, Grand Scribe, representing Grand High Priest Van Valkenburgh, who was unable to be present; also by R. Excellent Leon M. Abbott, Grand King, and Excellent Companion Solon Wilder, District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Eleventh Capitular District.

The order of exercises as arranged proved very interesting and the musical programme by the Pilgrim Quartette of Boston was a rare treat; the banquet was one of Companion Kenney's best.

On Sunday afternoon, December 11, 1921, special services were held in the First Parish Church (Unitarian), Fitchburg, and the Companions of Thomas Chapter, their families and friends, were present in large numbers. The exercises were deeply impressive and worthy of the occasion.

The address of R. Excellent Companion Rev. R. Perry Bush, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, tracing the history and growth of Freemasonry from early days and its connection with the Stone Masons of Germany, and Cathedral builders of the middle ages, was replete with interesting details and held the close attention of every one present. Altogether the entire celebration was a great success.



RICHARD S. TUCKER

High Priest 1921

Address of Welcome of Ex. Companion Richard S. Tucker

Right Excellent Companions, Companions of Thomas Chapter and Visiting Companions:

It is a pleasant duty as the Forty-Fourth High Priest of Thomas Chapter to welcome this assembly. We gather today for an occasion of no ordinary moment.

Generations have come and gone, and we of the present have gathered to celebrate the centennial of that important event when a dispensation for the institution of a Royal Arch Chapter was given to Companions Rev. Samuel Clarke and others, in Princeton, Mass., to work as Royal Arch Masons, on December 11, 1821.

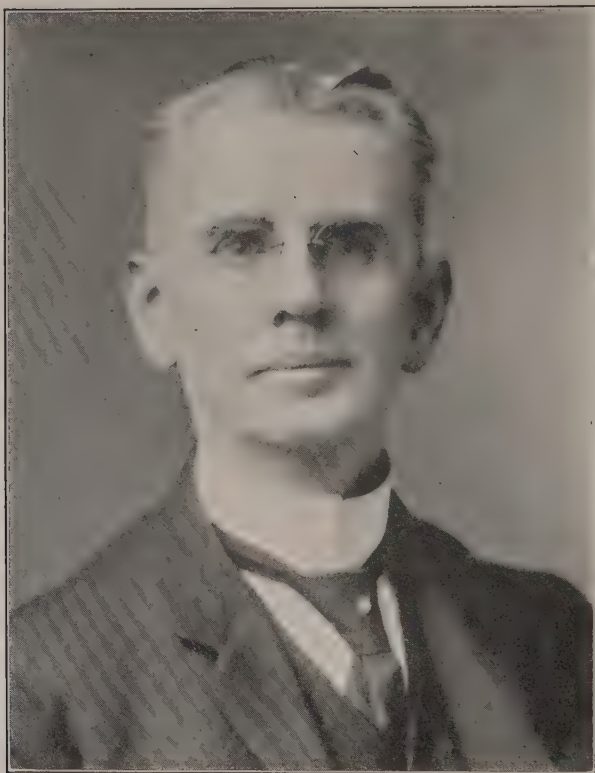
For the members of Thomas Chapter of today its centennial is an occasion of more than ordinary significance. Let us for a time, go back in imagination to the early days of the century which has just closed.

Let us recall the many changes that have taken place and consider whether with all our great advantages and privileges we are doing as much to elevate our city and country as did our forefathers with the limited opportunities at their command. Chapter Masonry is not a relic of the past. It is very much alive today, as has been evidenced by the admission of 56 Companions to our Chapter during the year just closed, the largest year's work in its history.

Let's go forward and make the present year one that will be as well referred to at the next centennial. We should impress upon the minds of the uninformed, something of the excellent lessons of Capitular Masonry, in which if a man is faithful to the lessons therein taught, he will find in all its glorious fulness, a beacon light that no darkness can ever dim.

I wish it were in my power to express to the Companions the deep feelings of pride, which are not only mine but which I know are those of every Companion of Thomas Chapter on this occasion. We today can have but little understanding of what those men went through one hundred years ago and I do not propose at this time to go into the details of the institution of Thomas Chapter, but a careful reading of the Centennial History, to be published later will demonstrate that Thomas Chapter has reason to be very proud of its record.

To our guests one and all, we extend a hearty Royal Arch welcome. To each and all, we extend the cordial hand; and to the members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, who have honored us today by their presence, we express our grateful appreciation of the honor they have done us by joining in this day's observance, and regret very much that the Grand High Priest was unable to be with us today.



FREDERICK A. CURRIER

Secretary Fifteen Years to Date
Trustee Thirty Years to Date

HISTORICAL ADDRESS
THOMAS ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

1821—DEC. 11—1921

BY COMPANION FREDERICK A. CURRIER

With deep reverence, acknowledging our dependence upon

Our Fathers' God, from out whose hand
The centuries fall like grains of sand,

we come to the Centennial of Thomas Chapter, calling to mind those
words of the poet—

Little of all we value here,
Comes to the morn of its hundredth year,
Without both feeling and looking queer;
In fact, there's nothing that keeps its youth,
So far as I know, but a tree and Truth.

"Truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue.
To be good men and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry,
and truth, which has been the light of Masonry for ages past, will
still shine as our guiding star of destiny."

There is no more interesting study than the history of our
Ancient Craft, and a knowledge of our heritage from the past and of
the rock from which we as Masons have been hewn. We are taught
that "Freemasonry arose in the East and has spread to the West."

There are those who seek to trace its origin back to very remote times and numerous volumes have been published giving many interesting and curious theories.

While we have no desire to unduly magnify the antiquity of our institution, we may justly and properly desire to know something of its history and origin, as we do in regard to our native land, or those whose public service or private virtues have won our admiration and esteem. And certainly an institution is worthy of our deepest study, which today, in this country alone, numbers more than two million and a half adherents, and of which the *Encyclopedia Britannica* says, "Freemasonry has been perpetuated by a devoted brotherhood through centuries. Established for the purpose of fraternal deeds of Charity and Benevolence, it spreads in various forms over the whole earth and it has seconded the Christian Religion in inculcating morality and worship of the one true God whose name it has sacredly preserved."

As one of the old manuals has it—

As you look down the misty past
Through its vistas dim and weird and vast,
Through the centuries of life and joy,
And the monuments of its employ,
Your craving should forever be
For "further light in Masonry."

Than this, there is no richer field.
The quest, the rarest treasures yield.
And the rewards? O, brother mine,
They may not all be known in time.
Therefore let life be one great plea
For "further light in Masonry."

Masonry has had its days of substance and reality, when things which now exist as mere forms for the presentation of spiritual truths were the symbols of a great and ambitious organization which covered the then known world with its works.

To quote a distinguished member of our fraternity---*

The brotherhood broad that we here represent
Has to man, in all ages, an influence lent,
Which we may be proud, has made fairer the earth
By its constant appeal for a high moral worth.

Far back, where the light of the most distant age
Falls in glory resplendent on history's page,
The Masons of old on their trestle-boards drew
Their designs as revealed by the architect true.

Ere Philip the Third had the golden fleece planned;
Ere the eagles of Rome waved o'er every land;
Ere Cheops had builded in Ghizeh his tomb,
There was found for our worthy Fraternity room.

And on through all time as earth's progress we trace,
And the ashler that's rough to the smoother gives place,
Wherever advances our race in its might,
Stand the Craft pleading always for virtue and right.

Go read in cathedrals and temples most grand,
That adorn in their beauty full many a land,
Not only how they of our brethren have wrought
Into marble and sandstone what genius has taught,

But mark how each spire, reaching up toward the sky,
Tells the story of faith and principle high;
That one with the church in its mission on earth,
Has Freemasonry stood from the day of its birth.

What friendship demands; what morality asks;
And what brotherly love may present as our tasks,
We all who are Masons accepted and free,
'Twixt the points of the compasses clearly can see.

We choose for the head of the corner, the stone
Which the overseers in with the rubbish had thrown;
We seek to advance in Most Excellent ways,
While we bring to our God a full tribute of praise.

We travel Rough Roads as we journey along;
But the veils are all passed and we enter with song
The Grand Royal Arch, and in manhood complete
In the Chapter each one is allotted a seat.

*Ex. Comp. Rev. R. Perry Bush, D. D.

There are many fanciful legends connected with the institution's supposed origin. Among them the following is one of the most curious.

The legend, that every one is supposed to know, runs to the effect that the four children of Lamech and his two wives, Adah and Zillah, founded the beginning of all the sciences in the world. The eldest son, Jabal, pursued the science of geometry, and abandoned his flocks and herds to build with stones and trees; his brother Jubal founded the science of music; his brother Tubal Cain founded the smith craft in all metals; and his sister founded the craft of weaving. Having a foreknowledge of the punishment about to fall on mankind, they engraved their sciences on two stones, so that they might not be lost when the "vengeance for synn" came. One of these stones was of marble, in the belief that it would not burn, if fire consumed all else upon the face of the earth; the other was "clepped laterns," supposed not to be able to drown or sink in any water, if a flood should be the means of destruction. After the Deluge, the great-grandson of Noah found one of these stones, and saw the science on it and taught it to other people. "And at the making of the tower of Babylon, there was Masonry first made much of." Nimrod was a Mason as well as hunter, it seems, and fond of his science, or, as we should now say, trade. And when the city of Nineveh and other cities in the East were built, he sent his cousin, the King of Nineveh, three-score of Masons to assist him. We quote the legend: "And when he sent them forth, he gave them a charge in this manner: That they should be true each of them to the other, and that they should love truly together, and that they should serve their lord truly for their pay, so that the master may have worship, and that long to him. And other more charges he gave them. And this was the first tyme that ever Masons had any charge of his science." From this little band of Masons, bound together as strangers, in a strange land, possessed of the knowledge of a craft that was beyond the understandings of the dwellers in tents, according to this story, came Freemasonry.

So runs this legend, with patriarchal belongings, surroundings and discrepancies—its clink of pre-historic tools on pre-Noachian tablets, and sight of Tyrian shipmen, and scent of cedar forests.

"As an established organization, Masonry took form several centuries ago when Operative Masonry flourished, and Masonic guilds,



GEORGE SHERWIN

High Priest 1858-60
Grand Scribe 1860



ELBRIDGE G. SNOW

High Priest 1873-75, 1886-88
Grand King 1876



CHARLES S. LITCH

High Priest 1863-69, 1872



N. E. METCALF

High Priest 1899

and later fraternities, devoted their attention to the construction of buildings. During these early days the operative masons held lodge meetings in a building which was guarded to prevent the approach of those not members of the Craft. They met in secret, admitted members by initiation, and taught the initiates the symbolism of the order as well as how to make themselves known to each other by grips and signs. Whatever we do or do not know concerning the beginnings of Masonry, we see in all its history a body of men, bound by ties of fraternity, working for the common good and for the preservation of moral truths, unhampered by bigotry or blind intolerance."

The earliest accepted records date from the following:

"In the year 926 A. D., Prince Edwin obtained from his brother King Athelstane, a charter for the Masons of England, as a body, and a general assembly was held at York and organized a General Lodge, of which he was Grand Master, and having brought with them all the writings and records extant, some in Greek, some in Latin, and some in French and some in other languages, and from the contents thereof, the assembly framed the constitution and charges of the English Lodges."

From this assembly and from the Lodge of Kilwinning our present Grand Lodges trace their descent.

In Scotland, from the beginning of the twelfth century, there is abundant evidence, and from 1441 we find prominent mention among the National Archives of the duties, objects, and dispensations for the society.

Copies of Charters issued by James IV. of Scotland show the Ancient Landmarks, duly set forth, as we know them today. But interesting as this is, we as speculative Masons are content to look back for the new life of Freemasonry, as it is known and understood today, to the very beginning of the eighteenth century. When with the decline of Gothic Architecture there came the transition from an operative to a speculative form, we trace the evolution of the fraternity from the builders of that day and until it came to have nothing to do with builders or buildings. The craftsmen who erected churches, cathedrals, and bridges of the middle ages were all organized into guilds or lodges, which had their different grades of appren-

tice, craftsman, and master, and their secrets of the art and craft of building, their etiquette and ceremonies and rights and privileges.

St. Paul's Cathedral in London, erected in 1690, was the last example of the work of the fraternity of Operative Workmen, who derived their title of Freemasons from the freedom they enjoyed in traveling in foreign countries "to work and receive Masters' pay." With their realization of the threatened decline of Freemasonry, from lack of active workmen to carry forward the institution, St. Paul's Lodge, builders of the cathedral, under Sir Christopher Wren, the Architect, as their Grand Master, in 1702, "Resolved, that in order that the essential moral and social features of the institution might be preserved by an increase of membership, that the privilege of Masonry be no longer restricted to operative Masons, but extend to men of various professions, provided they are regularly approved and initiated into the order."

Then commenced a new era for the fraternity, taking in its speculative form a moral and spiritual application of the rules of building to the minds of the craftsmen, who in place of building of stone, were taught to erect temples of the heart and mind, "to be concluded in wisdom, supported in strength and adorned in beauty," "like unto that spiritual building, that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens," and their mission to disseminate the spirit of brotherly love, relief, and truth among men, and make virtue by their influence and example dominant in the human heart.

Newton, in his Masonic masterpiece, "The Builders," refers to the change to Speculative Masonry in these words:

Henceforth the Masons of England were no longer a society of handicraftsmen, but an association of men of all orders and every vocation, as also of almost every creed, who met together on the broad basis of humanity, and recognized no standard of human worth other than morality, kindness and love of truth. They retained the symbolism of the old Operative Masonry, its language, its ritual and its oral tradition. No longer did they build churches but the spiritual temple of Humanity; using the square not to measure right angles of blocks of stone, but for evening the inequalities of human character; nor the compass any more to describe circles on the tracing board, but to draw a Circle of Good-will around all mankind.

Since that time Masonry has been taught and practiced in its present form substantially without change.

It is a remarkable fact that in Masonry we have an order whose ritual, landmarks and teachings have remained unchanged for more than 200 years. They have stood the critical test of their application to the problems of humanity under vastly varying conditions, and today stand as sound and as true as when they were formulated. Whilst denominational religions have constantly changed their creeds to adapt them to the advance of human knowledge, Masonry finds her interpretation of the principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man just as vital, just as useful in the correction of human ills and just as safe a guide to human conduct as they were over two hundred years ago. Masonry is not worthy because it is old; it is old because it is true.

To the uninitiated, Masonry is a bundle of mysteries; even for the initiated it contains mysteries numerous and intricate enough to occupy their thoughts throughout their lives. It is sometimes asked why Freemasonry should have so many degrees? Why should it not teach its lesson in one degree, and let the future work out its purposes. We learn all things by degrees, and each "step" in Masonry, as they were designated in the old manuals, has its own specific, definite purpose.

The great lesson of which is that of human life, followed by death and the resurrection. The allegory is gradually unfolded through the most wonderful cycle of symbolism ever invented by man; for in the application of every symbol of the craft, lies a two-fold purpose—to tell by a parable, what life is, and to admonish by moral precept how life should be lived. As we advanced, we were asked, "What we most desired?" and our answer was, "Light," "More Light" and "Further Light." There are no idle or unmeaning ceremonies, and for him, "that has an ear to hear," there is a deep and interesting history and reason connected with the use of every symbol as presented in the different degrees. The ritual of the craft drawn from the sacred writings and running back for its legends and truths to the very childhood of the human family presents the highest themes for our serious contemplation.

The recognized foundation and cornerstone of the Masonic edifice, for every degree of Freemasonry, is the Blue Lodge—whether we, afterwards, follow the line of the York or Scottish Rite. As Chapter Masons, we constitute the second body of the York Rite, and the

great lessons taught in the symbolic degrees are further emphasized, illustrated and completed in the Capitular degrees. Nowhere are sublimer principles, more practical and important lessons taught, than are to be found in the Capitular degrees, and in rounding out and perfecting Masonic knowledge. Wherein we are reminded that

Every Mason in the quarry, every builder on the shore,
Every chopper in the palm grove, every raftsmen at the oar—
Heaving wood and drawing water, splitting stones, and cleaving sod—
All the dusty ranks of labor, in the regiment of God,
March together toward His triumph, do the task His hands prepared :
Honest toil is holy service; faithful work is praise and prayer.

—*Henry van Dyke.*

In the old burying ground in our neighboring town of Townsend, have peacefully reposed for nearly a century and a half, the ashes of one Henry Price, to whose memory the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts have erected a monument, as the founder of Constituted Masonry in America, his appointment dating from 1733.

There were many Masons in the Colonies before that date but the first regular lodges were organized, at that time, as we have them today.

It has been related that the first three degrees of Masonry were introduced in this country in 1658. The first lodge meetings in America were held in King's Chapel, Boston, in 1720.

Royal Arch Masonry, as a separate and independent organization, is of comparatively modern date. The separation grew out of, and was one of the results of, the memorable schism in England in the establishment of the Grand Lodges in the early part of the eighteenth century, which separation continued until 1813.

When the union of the two rival Grand Lodges of England took place in 1813, they officially defined Ancient Craft Masonry as consisting of the first three degrees and "including the Holy Royal Arch."

The word Chapter took the place of Lodge in England in April, 1768, and the word Companion in place of Brother in England in 1784. The earliest history we have of the Royal Arch degree in America is that in 1753, when it was conferred under a Lodge Charter in Fredericksburg, Va. It was introduced into New York about the same time from an English Military Lodge.

The early records show the Royal Arch degree conferred as an additional degree, by some of the Blue Lodges. As early as October, 1762, the Lodge of St. Andrew in Boston made application to Scotland, for leave to confer the Royal Arch degrees. Later Royal Arch Lodges, as they were called, were formed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; among the first being St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge of Boston, organized in 1769 by members of the Lodge of St. Andrew with the assistance of several British soldiers who were then stationed in Boston. On January 24, 1798, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States was organized in Hartford, Conn., by two Chapters from Massachusetts, three from Connecticut, one from Rhode Island and three from New York.

March 13, 1798, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was formed at the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston by Companions of St. Andrew's Chapter of Boston, organized in 1769, and King Cyrus Chapter of Newburyport organized in 1790.

In 1821, nine other Chapters in Massachusetts had been organized.

St. John's at Groton, 1803.

King Solomon's at Charlton, 1805.

Washington at Salem, 1811.

King Hiram at Greenwich, 1815.

Adoniram at Attleboro, 1816.

Morning Star at Greenfield, 1817.

Rising Sun at Nantucket, 1818.

St. Paul's at Boston, 1818.

Mt. Zion at Stoughton, 1820.

The next to be organized was Thomas Chapter at Princeton in 1821.

Now that as a Chapter we can enter on our "Golden Book of Days," the completed record of a full century of years, we may do well to pause for a time from our labors and review the meaning, the results, the promises, and the achievements of that period.

Now all beginnings of life greatly interest mankind, be it the planting of a tree, the sowing the seed, in the springtime, the birth of a child, or a nation.

But all beginnings are apt to be very small, and I would carry your thoughts, at this time, back to the small beginnings of Thomas

Chapter, to the conditions under which it was started, and review the story of how the fathers wrought and at what sacrifice of time, patience and toil was established the vigorous institution of which we are privileged this day to be a part.

The conditions surrounding the daily life of the people of a New England town of a century ago were so different it is almost impossible for us to understand what it meant to be without the many conveniences, which we now regard as necessities of life, all of them unknown to the people of 1821. At that time not a locomotive was running on this continent. All transportation was by horse or ox team and the people of Princeton considered themselves highly favored in having a small four-horse coach, which ran from Royalston, through the towns of Gardner, Westminster, Princeton, and West Boylston to Worcester, making one trip a week, throwing off at the house of each of the subscribers copies of the *Massachusetts Spy*. Sperm-oil lamps, and tallow candles were depended upon for illumination, and not until several years later was kerosene first used. Lucifer matches, steel pens and envelopes were unknown. Sewing-machines had not been invented.

Few, if any, cooking stoves were in use. Steamboats, railroads, telegraph, telephone, gas or electric lighting, autos, wireless and flying machines were, most of them, in the far distant future.

Princeton, in 1821, had a population of 1261; Westminster 1634; Leominster 1790; Lunenburg 1209; Fitchburg 1736, and Worcester 2962.

The Blue Lodges within a circle of 30 miles were located in Worcester, Hardwick, Templeton, Rutland, Sterling, Groton, Lancaster, Leominster and Ashby.

Their membership was seldom over 25 or 30. Princeton seems to have been considered a central point for the towns of this vicinity, as we find Trinity of Lancaster, Aurora of Leominster, Harris of Templeton and Thompson of Rutland, holding their joint celebration of St. John's Day, June 24, 1818, in Princeton, with a sermon by Rev. Brother Samuel Clarke.

The Royal Arch Chapters, west of Boston, were only five, located in Springfield, Greenfield, Groton, Charlton and Greenwich. The last named being nearest Princeton. I venture to say that very few of the Companions of Thomas Chapter of today, ever heard the

town of Greenwich mentioned, although located less than 40 miles from Fitchburg, adjoining Hardwick and Dana. At the time we are referring to (1821), it is interesting to note the great activity often found in the small towns of Massachusetts of which Greenwich was an example. Here was a town of less than 800 people, with King Hiram Royal Arch Chapter, the sixth chapter organized in Massachusetts and also Village Encampment of Knights Templars, the sixth Commandery chartered by the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Both of these organizations went out of existence many years ago but from their records (preserved in Boston), I have been able to glean certain facts of interest from the association of their members with the organization of Thomas Chapter. At the Annual Communication of King Hiram Chapter, held on May 2, 1816, the names of fourteen Companions are recorded as being present—thirteen of these names were later signed to the petition for the organization of Thomas Chapter, and their names are also on our Charter. Ex. Companion Rev. Alfred Harding, who delivered the address at the Constitution of Thomas Chapter, was the first High Priest of King Hiram Chapter.

Thomas Chapter has a treasured relic connected with King Hiram Chapter, in a silver token bearing this inscription, "Ezk. L. Bascom, King Hiram Chapter," and on the reverse side—his Mark, finely engraved.

In the days when this token was made, probably nearly a century and a quarter ago, it was the custom for a Brother entitled to a Mark, to carry a copy of his Mark, as a token of friendship and brotherly love, following the custom of the primitive Christians who we read held a similar practice of carrying "the tessure," in their travels, as a means of introduction to their fellow Christians even as late as the eleventh century. And, among the ancients, the mark or pledge was used as a symbol of hospitality. Many of the Ancient Mark Master Masons could not write, and could not form the initials of their names, and hence gave particular marks to identify themselves, choosing some characteristic sign or emblem by which they were known. Copies of these Marks of our Operative brethren are found upon the walls of cathedrals and stately buildings erected since the twelfth century, or a little earlier, scattered all over England, France, Scotland, and Germany. Many of the Masons, in their

mystic work, have handed down their Marks from generation to generation. We have no record of how this token came into the possession of Thomas Chapter by whom it has been used in the work of the fourth degree for years beyond the remembrance of our oldest Companions, possibly for the earliest days of our Chapter. No special interest was shown regarding its history until the discovery of the connection of King Hiram Chapter with the organization of Thomas Chapter caused inquiry to be made, and it was found upon investigation that Rev. Ezekiel L. Bascom of New Salem, was, a century ago, one of the most active and prominent members of the Masonic fraternity in this part of the state. His name heads the list of petitioners for King Hiram Chapter, his is the first name on the Charter and declining appointment as its first High Priest, he consented to accept the office of King, and after the granting of the Charter was elected High Priest and served for several years. He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts for four years, and in great demand as orator for St. John's Day celebrations, and several of his addresses were printed. He appears to have been the inspiring force in the organization of Village Encampment of Knights Templars in Greenwich, and a Charter Member.

The first three officers of which were: Eminent Commander, Rev. Ezekiel L. Bascom; Generalissimo, Rev. Alpheus Harding; Captain General, Rev. Festus Foster.

This illustrated the very active interest manifested in every branch of the fraternity by the clergy at this period; it is noticeable the first five names of the Charter members of Village Encampment and eleven of the first twenty-five candidates for the order were ministers of the Gospel.

I have before me the original record book of Thomas Chapter, with its quaint old straw-colored pages on which the beautiful quill pen writing, and ink clear and distinct, defies the lapse of time.

The first page of which reads:

PREAMBLE

The several Companions, Royal Arch Masons, residing in Princeton, feeling themselves actuated by the genuine principles of Freemasonry, being desirous of improving themselves in the sublime science, feeling it to be their incumbent duty to perfect themselves so far in its sacred mysteries as to be able to edify each other and communicate light and knowl-



CHARLES W. GODFREY

High Priest 1908

Grand Scribe 1913

District Deputy Grand High Priest, 11th Dist., 1910

edge to others who may desire the same, and are found worthy, from the further consideration of their being situated so far distant from any Chapter, which renders it very difficult to give attendance at their communications, being fully persuaded that the interests of Masonry in general, but more particularly, that of Royal Arch Masonry would be essentially benefited by having a Chapter instituted in this place: after having consulted with Companions in this vicinity on the subject, who appeared unanimously to concur with them in opinion, views and feelings above expressed, appointed a meeting to be holden at the house of Rev. Companion Samuel Clarke, on Friday the 30th day of November A. L. 5821 for further consultation. On the said 30th day of November, the Companions assembled according to appointment, when they came to order, and by nomination voted that Rev. Companion Samuel Clarke act as presiding officer and Companion Luke Eastman officiate as secretary.

After mature deliberation and consultation upon the objects of the meeting, Voted, that a meeting be next holden at Companion Charles Russell's in Princeton on Friday, the 7th of December A. L. 5821 for the purpose of taking all necessary measures for petitioning the Grand Chapter to institute a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Princeton.

Voted, that the secretary be directed to notify the Companions in the vicinity of said meeting and request their attendance. Voted, that a committee be appointed to apply to King Hiram Chapter at Greenwich for their approbation to have a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons established in this place.

Companions John G. Davis and Charles Russell were appointed as that committee. Meeting adjourned to time and place above mentioned.

LUKE EASTMAN, *Secretary*.

The following is a copy of the original petition:

To the Most Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of King Hiram Royal Arch Chapter in Greenwich.

Companions and Brethren:—We the subscribers, members of the Royal Arch Fraternity of Masons, living at a great distance from any Chapter and of course being denied the privilege of attending on the assemblies of our Companions, and wishing as well for this high privilege as to perfect ourselves in the sublime mysteries of our order, are desirous of being organized into a Royal Arch Chapter at Princeton. The place is central and at least twenty-five miles from any Chapter. We have no doubt that a Chapter in this place would flourish and promote the exalted purposes of the holy order. We therefore, respected Companions, earnestly solicit your approbation of our design as preparatory to our petitioning the Grand Chapter. Engaged in the same great cause with yourselves, we sincerely and affectionately wish you success, prosperity and happiness. Samuel Clarke, Timothy Whiting, Moses Thomas, Nahum Rice, John G. Davis, Charles Russell, John Whitney, Clark Mirick, William Howe, Luke Eastman, Isaac Bassett, Jr., Merrill Davis, Hezk. F. Stone.

At an adjourned meeting of the Companions of Princeton and vicinity holden at the house of Companion Charles Russell in Princeton on the 7th of December, A. L. 5821. Present Companions, Samuel Clarke, Clark Mirick, William Howe, John G. Davis, John Whitney, Charles Russell and Luke Eastman of Princeton Moses Thomas, Jonathan Bailey, and Nahum Rice of Sterling and Hezekiah Stone of Rutland.

The committee appointed to apply to King Hiram Chapter for approbation for a Chapter to be instituted in Princeton, reported that they had obtained the cordial approval of King Hiram Chapter. A petition was prepared for presentation to the M. E. Grand Chapter asking them to institute a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Princeton and grant letters of dispensation accordingly.

The petition was drafted by Companions Samuel Clarke, Luke Eastman and Moses Thomas and signed by the Companions present.

Proceeded to appoint the first three officers by ballot to govern said anticipated Chapter, should one be instituted, and unanimously elected Rev. Samuel Clarke, First High Priest; Timothy Whiting, Esq., First King; Moses Thomas, Esq., First Scribe.

Voted, unanimously, that should we obtain a Chapter it shall be called Thomas Royal Arch Chapter.

Companions John G. Davis and Charles Russell were appointed a committee to present the petition to the Grand Chapter.

Voted, that said committee be requested and authorized to pay all necessary expenses to the Grand Chapter and that the subscribers to said petition be considered as pledged, to said committee to bear an equal proportion of such expense should any occur.

The records of the Stated Communication of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Massachusetts for December 11, 5821, contain the following:

A petition from several Companions praying for permission to open and hold a Chapter at Princeton, in the County of Worcester, by the name of Thomas Chapter was read and committed to Ex. Comp. John Howe, John Abbott, and D. L. Gibbons, who having attended to the duty assigned them reported as follows, which report was accepted and adopted. The committee to whom was referred the above petition having attended to the duty assigned to them, beg leave to report, that from the consideration and circumstances therein set forth and from the representations from some companions possessing a knowledge of the facts, they do cheerfully recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Signed: JOHN HOWE, per order.

Wednesday, December 19, 1821, at a meeting at the house of Charles Russell in Princeton, the committee reported the granting of the Warrant of Dispensation by the Grand Chapter and the record reads:

Which report was cordially received and accepted.

The said Warrant of Dispensation and other documents being handed and delivered to the hands of the Council, the meeting dissolved and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened, when the Regulations of the M. E. Grand Chapter were read and the members then proceeded to election of subordinate officers, as follows: Capt. of Host, Companion John G. Davis; Principal Sojourner, Companion Charles Russell; Royal Arch Captain, Companion Nahum Rice; Master of 3d Veil, Companion Clark Mirick; Master of 2d Veil, Companion William Howe; Master of 1st Veil, Companion Merrill Davis; Treasurer, Companion Hezekiah F. Stone; Secretary, Companion Luke Eastman; Stewards, Companion John Whitney, Companion Isaac Bassett, Jr.; Tyler, Companion Jonathan Bailey.

Companions Samuel Clarke, Moses Thomas and Isaac Davis were appointed a committee on by-laws.

Companion Isaac Bassett, Jr., appointed a committee to secure Companion Corbett of Keene, N. H. to instruct the members of Thomas Chapter in the several degrees and mode of working and prepare their jewels.

Companions Samuel Clarke, John G. Davis and William Howe appointed a committee to provide a place for future meetings of the Chapter and procure all necessary regalia for the same at their discretion.

Voted, the Council be a committee to inform our Venerable and M. E. Companion Isaiah Thomas, Esq., of our having named this Chapter, Thomas Royal Arch Chapter from the merited respect we have for him and his eminent services to Masonry.

Voted, that our first regular communication be holden on Wednesday, the 2d day of January A. L. 5822 at 2 o'clock p. m.

I have before me a copy of the following letter in the handwriting of Ex. Companion Samuel Clarke.

Princeton, Jany. 21, 1822.

My Dear Sir.

You have probably known in this time, that a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has been recently organized in this town. I have now the pleasure in behalf of the Council, consisting of Companions Whiting of Lancaster and Thomas of Sterling, who were appointed a Committee for the purpose, to inform you, that from a high regard for you as a man, from a strong affection for you as a Mason and Companion, and from gratitude to you as a distinguished Patron of our order, we have taken the liberty of using your name, and calling our Chapter Thomas Royal Arch Chapter.

Should this, our united and cheerful act, meet with your approbation, we shall be much gratified, and think ourselves highly honoured in bearing your name.

Our communications are on every Wednesday next preceding each full of the Moon, except in July. If at any time it shall be consistant with your age and feelings, we shall be highly gratified in receiving a visit from you, and welcoming you to seat in our Chapter.

With all the blessings of Masonry in your declining days, we wish you their full harvest and reward, in that celestial and glorious state, to which all the good and faithful aspire, the high approbation and blessing of our Supreme Grand Master above.

Accept, Dear Sir, the assurance of our individual respect and affection,
SAMUEL CLARKE, H. P.

and in behalf of the Council of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter.
Most W. & E. Comp: Isaiah Thomas Esqr.

We treasure the following letter, which has been carefully preserved, written by his own hand from M. E. Companion Isaiah Thomas:

Worcester, Mass., Feby. 11, A. L. 5822.

Excellent Companion.

I have received your letter of the 21st ult. communicating to me official information that "a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has been recently organized" in Princeton, and that the members of this Chapter have been pleased to use my name and to "call it Thomas Royal Arch Chapter." This unexpected honour and *mark* of their regard will not fail to enlarge and strengthen those feelings of affection, which I have long had for my brethren in the several degrees in the "Royal Arch." I regret, that I have not been more worthy of the distinction, with which, I have been at times past and on the present occasion, honoured by my brethren and Companions; but with purity of heart I can affirm, that advanced age has not diminished my esteem for the Masonick family, nor impaired the veneration, in which I hold the principles, on which our Fraternity is founded. It will afford me pleasure should I be able at any time to make use of the kind invitation of visiting your Chapter. May it become a bright star in the masonick Constellation:—enlighten "the rugged path of life," and enable those, who seek to discover the Wisdom, Strength and Beauty of the Pillars, which support the Royal Arch.

I beg you to present my respects to the members of your Chapter, and to request them to accept my acknowledgements of this pleasing "Sign and Token" of their remembrance and regard. To you my worthy Brethren and Companions of the Council and Committee, my thanks are due for the kind and polite manner in which you have communicated the sentiments, and this honourary act of the Chapter respecting me. May "all the blessings and joys of Masonry and religion," of which you wish me "a full

harvest," be multiplied to you and all the members of your Chapter:— And may we be enabled so to conduct in our Lodge below, as to be permitted to enter the *perfect* and sublime Lodge above, where ever dwells and reigns our only Supreme Grand Master.

I am affectionately and most respectfully your brother and Companion,
ISAIAH THOMAS.

E. C. Samuel Clarke, H. P., T. Whiting and M. Thomas, Council Committee of the R. A. C. in Princeton.

Thomas Chapter is justly proud of having been named from this "Grand Old Man," Revolutionary patriot, and distinguished Mason. His connection with our fraternity was a very active one. He was Worshipful Master of Morning Star Lodge of Worcester, six years, commencing with 1793, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts three years from 1803 and again in 1809, and Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts three years commencing 1806.

Isaiah Thomas was the first postmaster of Worcester, receiving his appointment from Benjamin Franklin, the first Postmaster-General of the Colonies, and held the office from 1775 to 1801.

He intercepted the post rider bearing the Declaration of Independence from Philadelphia to the headquarters of the Provincial Army at Boston, and read it from the roof of the Old South Church, then situated on Worcester Common, to the patriotic people who gathered around him.

"In his person, Mr. Thomas was tall and elegantly formed; in his dress, fashionable to a fault; in his manners, elegant with a mind stored well by a most extensive acquaintance with the best authors, whether in literature or science." Such is a brief pen picture of his personal appearance and merited acquirements, by one who knew him well.

R. W. Bro. Charles T. Gallagher's tribute to his memory before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Dec. 29, 1903, is an interesting summary of his active, useful life. He said:

He was a most remarkable man as a citizen, patriot and philanthropist. Isaiah Thomas never attended school a day in his life. His father dying when the boy was young and there being a large family of children, at six years of age he was apprenticed to a printer of ballads in Boston, Zachariah Fowle, and the first work he did was to pick up type as described to him and set them out, matching them into a copy of

a ballad called the "Lawyer's Pedigree." It was while working at this trade that he not only learned to read from the type, but he taught himself to write, and at seventeen years of age we find him in charge of the "Halifax Gazette" in Nova Scotia, a paper owned by a Dutchman, named Henry. The Stamp Act of 1765 had developed republican principles, not only in the thirteen original colonies, but even into what are now the Maritime Provinces, a feeling which found itself very strongly developed in Isaiah Thomas; and his opposition to this act of Parliament was so strong that in publishing his newspaper he cut off the stamps furnished by the Crown and refused to use them. Twice he got his proprietor into trouble by reason of his seditious utterances, the owner being obliged at one time to plead that he was away and that the damage was done by his assistant, and at another time being obliged to feign illness in bed in order to be relieved from the punishment that would naturally have followed.

The atmosphere of Nova Scotia was too warm for a patriot like Thomas, and he left there, coming to Boston, where in 1770 he started a paper, which became in 1771 "The Massachusetts Spy." In November of that year he published an article in his paper signed "Mucius Scavola," taking the name of that youthful patrician of noble birth who went disguised from Rome to take the life of Lars Porsena, the besieger, by assassination; being detected and being taken into the presence of Porsena, to illustrate the patriotism and loyalty to country of the Roman youth, the youth thrust his hand into the burning altar fire, and kept it there until it was consumed, which so excited the admiration of Porsena that he returned him to Rome and raised the siege. This article with such a patriotic name breathed so much opposition to the Parliament and the Crown, and was so bitter in its tone, as well as logical in its conclusions, that Thomas was summoned before Governor Hutchinson and the Royal Council; he refused to answer their summons, and they found no way of compelling him. They then tried to indict him and failed in this, as he had committed no crime. The Attorney-general then proceeded against him by information and the clamoring of the people in Thomas's behalf compelled a withdrawal of that form of prosecution. Afterwards an indictment was attempted in Essex County, because the article had been circulated there, and this also the people resented to so great an extent that further prosecution was discontinued.

Isaiah Thomas, however, continued in his good work, not only in Boston, but in other parts of the State, for Dec. 4, 1773, he published the first number of "The Essex Journal and Merrimac Packet," at Newburyport, a town to which he went thirty years later as Grand Master to organize St. Mark's Lodge, the centennial of which was celebrated during the past year.

In 1774 he published the "Royal American Magazine" for one year, and a year later published the "Worcester Gazette." In 1774 he represented the "Massachusetts Spy" with a design at the top of a snake in nine parts, New England representing one of the parts and the remain-

ing colonies the rest, with the motto "Join or die," a combination of designs frequently used by the patriots during the War of the Revolution and still to be found on old banners used by organizations at that time and for many years after.

Thomas must have increased in venom as he progressed in years, for in 1775 he was openly threatened with tar and feathers by the royal sympathizers, and April 6, 1775, his office was broken up and everything destroyed by fire, except his type and presses which he smuggled across the river to Charlestown and thence to that place mentioned by Brother Nickerson so far away, Worcester, in the heart of the Commonwealth.

He took part with the Provincials at the battle of Lexington, and after that battle returned to Worcester with his type and presses and again started the "Spy," the first issue being under date of May 3, 1775. He subsequently became printer for Congress and was a Revolutionary soldier until he turned up again in 1778 at Worcester, publishing his newspaper, now the "Worcester Spy," as before.

He must have been a man of great business capacity and thrift, for at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when he turned over the business of Isaiah Thomas & Co. to his son in 1802, the concern was the proprietor of three newspapers and one magazine in Boston, they had five bookstores in Massachusetts, one in New Hampshire, one in Albany, and one in Baltimore.

He was Grand Master a hundred years ago, and in January, 1804, while he was Grand Master, it is amusing to read of the Ninth Masonic District taking in Camden on one side of Penobscot Bay, while the Tenth District began at Castine on the other side of the same Bay, a curious geographical combination, returned to Cape Cod for the Eleventh Masonic District. In those days Marietta, Ohio, which was about the limit of civilization in that direction, and Demerara in the West Indies, were actively under the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge.

So that this obscure man, without a day's education in any school, apprenticed to work at the early age of six, had developed a business that must have been regarded as a great fortune in those days, all through his own energy and work, and most of the time against almost insurmountable obstacles.

He donated to Harvard College his books and some other things, but the bulk of his fortune, in all about \$50,000, estimated at that time, he left to the Antiquarian Society of Worcester that he had founded. He had been, through all his life, whatever his means, a benefactor and kindly man, and when his means gave him opportunity he was known as a charitable man of the practical kind, and was a ready supporter of all good and worthy objects. He had acquired a reputation and fame as a literary man, an unusual thing in a person not trained in early life in some form of school or collegiate education.

He was to my mind the typical Mason, or rather, I should say that he embodied in his life and character those practical virtues which should

typify the Mason and of which a Mason should be proud. Starting in life without means, he struggled in poverty against all sorts of obstacles, even the Government under which he lived, and still wrought "a pathway out to wealth and fame," scattering it with his benefactions, and died leaving a rich legacy of literary treasures for the benefit of future generations. What better record can a man leave, and how more beautifully than is exemplified in his life can we apply the principles of our Institution to human existence?

His life is a fit object lesson for us to carry away with us in our memories, and although our lot is cast in changed times and our opportunities are different, still, the principles of industry, temperance, fortitude and virtue can all be applied by us, in our daily lives, whatever our walks may be; this I present as a text for the rule and guide of each one of us, and for the formation of resolutions for the coming New Year.

The first regular communication of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter was holden on the second day of January, A. L., 5822, being Wednesday next previous to the moon's full. Opened on the Mark degree in due form. Companions Isaac Davis, Eli Smith, and Artemas Dryden were admitted to membership. Committee on By-Laws reported; their report accepted and adopted.

They provided, "That regular communications be held every month, except July, on the Wednesday preceding each moon's full, at 2 o'clock p. m., providing always when the moon shall full on Wednesday, the Chapter shall meet on that day." "The officers shall be chosen annually at the regular communication in November." "The By-Laws shall be read at the annual communication."

The fee for degrees was a deposit of five dollars with petition, ten dollars on receiving the Mark degree, and sixteen dollars when raised to the Royal Arch degree.

Art. 7. "As charity is one of the principal objects of the Order of Masonry and for this laudable purpose particular attention should be given to the funds of the Chapter, not only to *increase*, but preserve them from perversion, it is provided that all or any donations of money to this Chapter shall be considered as funded property, the interest of which only to be applied to the objects of Masonry, or paying the necessary expense of the Chapter, and that all monies received by this Chapter excepting sufficient to pay its necessary debts and expenses, shall in like manner be funded and applied. It is further provided that no money belonging to this Chapter shall be applied to purchasing any kind of refreshments for members or visitors,



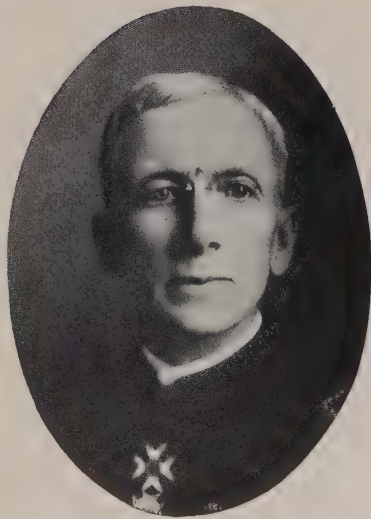
EDWARD D. MOODY
High Priest 1895-97
D. D. G. H. P., 11th Dist., 1904



GEORGE S. RICHARDSON
High Priest 1879-82
Treasurer Twenty-three years



GEN. GEORGE H. PRIEST
High Priest 1902-03



FRED H. RIDEOUT
High Priest 1889-90

or paying any expenses of festivals or celebrations after the installation of this Chapter, excepting for musick and donations to orators, if expedient, which expediency shall be determined by the regular majority."

Art. 10. "Every member and visiting Companion shall demean himself in this Chapter agreeably to the rules thereof, and the ancient usages of the order, and any member guilty of profane swearing, intemperance, or other unmasonick conduct in or out of the Chapter, shall on conviction thereof before the Chapter in the first place be admonished or reprimanded by the council, and if reformation does not follow, shall at the discretion of the chapter, be suspended, debarred or expelled, and any one who has been suspended or expelled from the Chapter shall not regain admission until full satisfaction be made to the Chapter, and the members thereof are unanimously satisfied of his having reformed and of his being worthy."

"No refreshments shall be brought into the Chapter unless by consent of three-fourths of the members present, and before the Chapter is closed it shall be the duty of the stewards to see that the tables are cleared."

The original book of by-laws of the Chapter commences with the following:

"We the subscribers severally and solemnly obligate ourselves to support and maintain and be governed by the foregoing by-laws of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter according to their true intent and meaning and in testimony whereof, we as members of said Chapter have hereunto severally affixed our signatures."

This book has the original signatures of 36 Companions to 1827 in Princeton.

The records do not state where the meeting of January 2, 1822, was held, but at the regular communication of February 6, 1822, it was, "Voted to continue to hold communication at the hall of P. Richardson until Companion Charles Russell shall have one in readiness." At this meeting fifteen of the eighteen members of the Chapter are recorded as present. Companion James Wilson of Keene, N. H., was secured to instruct the officers, and I find the following receipted bill for his entertainment, paid by the Chapter:

Russell & Davis—To P. Richardson, Dr.

Jan. 10, 1822:

13 meals for James Wilson	\$3.25
5 nights lodging for James Wilson	.63
7 nights horsekeeping for James Wilson ...	1.75
1¼ bushel of oats	.63
	\$6.26

The only charge of Companion Wilson for his services appears in account of Mirick & Russell.

Jan. 14, 1822.

Paid James Wilson, Esq., cash	\$6.00
Entertainment, Mr. Wilson and horse	.75
	\$6.75

On March 6, 1822, the Chapter received its first petition from Joel Pratt of Sterling. He was proposed by two Companions and it was voted, "That when a candidate is proposed, his character shall be spoke to, at the time when proposed."

"A committee was raised to take into consideration the propriety of laying the corner stone in Masonick order of the new hall to be erected for the Chapter." This was a two-story brick building to be erected by Charles Russell, Mirick & Russell occupying the first floor for their store, and the hall of the Chapter to be on the second floor. This building is still standing, now occupied as a dwelling and known as the Russell Mansion. April 3, 1822. The degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent, worked for first time.

"It was decided to be inexpedient to lay the corner stone" of the new building.

May 29, 1822, the first three candidates were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree.

There were no Companions in those days offering for sale paraphernalia and regalia, and the Companions of Thomas Chapter were obliged to employ local handiwork, and about everything provided could have been stamped "Made in Princeton." The entire outfit was secured at a total expense of \$288.10.

From the original bills the following items will show the difference of prices in 1821.

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter To John G. Davis, Dr.

To 29 days work on furniture at 6s per day	\$29.00
To board for same	6.75
341 feet boards at \$1.00 per hundred	3.41
125 feet plank at \$2.00 per hundred	2.50
6 common chairs at 75 cents each	4.50
3 large chairs at \$1.75 each	5.25
Chest	3.50
Painting, ornamenting the desks, alter, etc.	4.75
Bolts and nails	1.15
One ark and two pillars	9.00
Paid Miss Lawton, 24 days' work on dresses and collars etc., at 2s per day	8.00
Paid Miss Gill, 9 days work at 25 cents a day	2.25
To board of same, 5 weeks at \$1.25 per week	6.25
3 skeins silk and 2 skeins of cotton	.40
On red roan skein	2.25
1½ dozen of brass knobs	1.20
3 stars	.38
Gilt straps	.75
Paid Miss Davis, 4 days work on alterations at 50 cents	2.00
Paid Miss Lawton, work on robes and collars	3.67
Millinett pasteboard and green silk	.87
	\$97.57

(Paid \$40 cash and note of treasurer for balance)

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter To Mirick & Russell, Dr.

1821

December :

21. Paid for letter of dispensation	\$20.00
25. 3 doz. wood screws	.21
2 lbs. 4d nails	.20
8 oz. brads	.40
8 oz. brads	.32
29. 1 pr. butts	.10
1 doz. 1½ in. screws	.10
1 doz. 1 in. screws	.08

1822

January :

5. 2 doz. screws	.17
4 lbs. white lead	.67
1 lb. red lead	.14

February:

5.	1¾ yds. green baize, 2/6	.74
	5½ yds. binding	.11
	200 brass nails	.40
6.	1 blank book	2.25
14.	1 ps 6/4 cambric, 12 yds @ 50c	6.00
	3 ps 6/4 cambric, 36 yds. @ 47c	16.92
	1 ps 4/4 cambric, 12 yds. @ 50c.	6.00
	18½ yds. blue cambric @ 25c	4.63
	8¾ yds. red tabby velvet	8.25
	29 yds. purple cambric @ 28c	8.12
	2 ps yellow cont. 10/6	3.50
	12 glass cut stones	2.00
	5/8 yd. yellow lace	.42

March:

1.	Keystone	5.50
18.	300 brass nails	.60
	4 yds. silk cord	1.12
	4 nots red thread	.12
	2 skiens sewing silk	.50
	9 oz. card tacks	.56
	16 nots thread	.36
19.	3 books brass leaf	.24
25.	Brass leaf	.65
	½ yd. Russian Duck	.20
	4 lbs. white lead	.67
	4 yds. white figured ribbon	.67
28.	6 skiens red silk	.38
	3 skiens thread	.06
29.	1 set guilt jewels	36.00

April:

2.	7 yds. print	.28
	1 ps tape	.12½
	2 skiens sewing silk	12½
	4 nots thread	.04
3.	3 yds. paper	.25
	3 skeins silk and ribbon	.30
15.	15½ yds. black cambric	4.34
	1 yd. millennet	.33
	2 sheets pasteboard	.25
	Cash paid for 3 mark jewels	7.50
	1 ps yellow cord	1.50

May:

1.	Padlock	.34
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September :

25. 1 quire paper	.25
1 ink stand	12½
Postage on letter	.10
Ephriam Allen for moving furniture	.44

October :

31. 1 Bed cord	.50
Wire	.06
Paid Wm. Howe for work	.83
Paid for lattice window	2.25

1823.

February :

11. 10¾ yds. white cambric 2/3	4.04
1 cotton ball	.10
3 yds. tape	.04
12. 2 swords	.27
20. 1 tin horn	.20
22. Making white viels	.42

April :

30. Letter postage	.10
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May :

21. Book of records	3.75
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June :

16. 25 yds. purple cambric 1/6	6.25
20. 6 yds. gold guild lace 3/9	3.75
½ yd. Tabby velvet	.50
1 yd. white twist	.06
Samuel Randall, work	.12½
23. 4 yds. ribbon	.50

September :

26. Small cords	.08
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October :

3. 2 small locks	.28
Screws	.06
Expenses of Installation	
Advertising in Spy and Argus	4.50
Advertising in Centinal	1.50
12 dinner tickets for Grand Chapter	15.00
1 dinner ticket for Isaiah Thomas Esq.	1.25

November :

Use of hall for 14 months @ \$20 per year	23.33
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————— \$233.88

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter To Mirick & Russell

1827

February:

7. 6 sheets of paper	.06
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March:

7. Postage on letter	.10
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May:

15. Washing and repairing clothing	.75
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June:

6. Bunch of quills	.10
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18. 3 yds. gilt lace	4.50
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1 strip red velvet	.44
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1 strip cambric	.12
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1 skein silk	.05
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Sattin and pasteboard	.33
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Ribbon	.12
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Making collar and breast plate	1.00
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Postage on phamplets	.09
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Rent of hall	16.00
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	\$29.53
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Thomas Chapter is recorded as being represented for the first time in the Grand Chapter, on September 10, 1822. At that meeting the record reads:

"At the request of the officers of Thomas Chapter, Voted that the Grand High Priest be authorized to extend the dispensation for said Chapter until the 24th day of June next."

In September, 1822, the Chapter moved to their new hall in the Russell building, which continued to be their home during their sojourn in Princeton.

Blake's History of Princeton says: "It is related that once when the Masons met at the (hall) in the tavern of Peter Richardson (now Grimes House), Mrs. Richardson rapped at the door saying she had occasion for her gridiron if the meeting was not using it."

The Chapter continued to receive one or more petitions at each monthly meeting, and on February 19, 1823, looking forward to institution by the Grand Chapter in June, it was Voted, that the secretary be directed to invite by letter the brethren of the following lodges: Trinity of Lancaster, Aurora of Leominster, Morning Star of Worcester, Harris of Templeton, and Thompson of Rutland, with the following Chapters: King Hiram of Greenwich, St. John's of Groton, and King Solomon of Charlton to meet in Princeton on June 24, 1823,

and join in the Institution of the Chapter. April 23, a committee of seven were appointed to make the necessary arrangements, and to select a suitable person to deliver an address on June 24. At the Regular Communication on June 18, 1823, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the application of Companions residing in Worcester for a Chapter in that town.

In the Massachusetts Spy, the following advertisement appeared: "The Nativity of St. John the Baptist will be celebrated in Princeton on the 24th of June next, when Mason Hall will be dedicated and Thomas Royal Arch Chapter installed. The procession will move to the meeting house precisely at 11 o'clock a. m., where an address will be delivered by Rev. Companion Alpheus Harding, after which the ceremonies of installation by the M. E. Grand Chapter will be publicly performed. The Masonic fraternity generally are respectfully invited to attend. Royal Arch Masons are requested to appear in the Insignia of the Order. Brethren will be accommodated by Messrs. Mirrick and Russell, of whom tickets may be had at the hall. Ladies accommodated at the public house of Charles Smith. Per order of Committee of Arrangements, Charles Russell, Clerk Princeton, May 7, A. D. 1823."

The records of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts have the following: "A Special Communication of the Grand Royal Arch at Princeton, in the County of Worcester, on June 24, A. L., 5823, for the purpose of dedicating and installing the officers of Thomas Chapter. Present, M. Ex. Jonathan Gage, Grand High Priest; E. Caleb Butler, Grand King; E. Thomas P. Jackson as Grand Scribe pro tem; E. Benjamin Smith, as Grand Treasurer pro tem; E. John J. Loring, Grand Secretary; E. William Barry, Grand Marshall; Rev. and E. James Thompson, Grand Chaplain; E. Abhm. A. Dame, Grand Royal Arch Captain; Companion James Lewis, Grand Captain of Host; Companion Asa Raymond, Grand Principal Sojourner; Companion William Weir, Companion J. V. C. Smith, Companion William Brazer, Grand Masters of the Veils; Companion Michael Roulstone, Companion Samuel Fiske, Grand Stewards; Companion David Child, Bearer of Great Lights; Companion ——— Watson, Grand Tyler pro tem.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form and the following Communication and report were read, viz:—

To our E. Comp. A. A. Dame, Michael Roulstone and Asa Raymond: You are appointed a committee to examine Thomas Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; you will therefore proceed to Princeton and in open Chapter, examine its by-laws, records, work and lectures of said Thomas Chapter and make a report to me of your doings at or before 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning the 24th inst.

Done at Newburyport this 20th day of June, 1823.

To M. E. Jonathan Gage, Esq., Grand High Priest of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Massachusetts:

The undersigned, the committee, whom you were pleased to appoint to examine Thomas Chapter Royal Arch Masons, in relation to by-laws, records, work and lectures of said Chapter, have attended to that duty and respectfully beg leave to report.

They find the by-laws of said Chapter in conformity with the laws and constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of this Commonwealth. They find however, in one of the articles of said by-laws a provision, "that should there be but one ballot against a candidate for the degrees in said Chapter, that the person so negating said candidate, shall before the High Priest, King and Scribe of said Chapter, sitting in secret council, state his reasons for so negating said candidate, and that the said High Priest, King and Scribe shall judge of the validity of said objection," which provision your committee are unadvised, whether it is, or is not in conformity with the Laws and Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of this Commonwealth.

The records of Thomas Chapter are accurately and elegantly made, and parts of the lectures given by them on the Mark and Royal Arch deserve great commendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Per Order: ABRAHAM A. DAME.

Princeton, June 24, 1823.

The report was accepted, and it was Voted, "That the Grand Chapter do now proceed to consecrate Thomas Chapter and install its officers and that the Grand High Priest be requested to direct said Chapter to cause to be expunged from their by-laws, the article



FRED A. YOUNG

High Priest 1916

Grand King Grand Royal Arch Chapter Mass., 1922-23

District Deputy Grand High Priest, 11th Dist., 1918

alluded to, by the committee, the said article being contrary to the ancient customs and usages in every degree of Free-Masonry."

The procession was then formed and proceeded to the meeting house where the Ceremonies of Consecration were performed in a most solemn and impressive manner, and the following Companions were installed in Ancient form by their corresponding Grand Officers: M. E. Samuel Clarke, High Priest, by his proxy M. E. James Lewis, Jr.; E. Timothy Whiting, King; E. Moses Thomas, Scribe; Comp. John Whitney, Treasurer; Comp. Alexander Dustin, Secretary; Rev. Elisha Andrews, Chaplain; Comp. Nahum Rice, Royal Arch Captain; Comp. John G. Davis, Captain of Host; Comp. Charles Russell, Principal Sojourner; Comp. Clark Mirick, Comp. William Howe, Comp. William Davis, Masters of Veils; Comp. Isaac Bassett, Jr., Comp. Joel Pratt, Stewards; Comp. Jonathan Bailey, Tyler.

The Grand Chapter having returned to their room closed in due form after parts of Mark and Royal Arch lectures had been recited.

JOHN J. LORING Secretary.

The record of Thomas Chapter for this Communication reads: Masons Hall, Princeton, June 24, 5823. Opened in Royal Arch Degree. Committee appointed to notify Grand Marshall that this Chapter is now ready to wait upon the officers of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and the Grand Marshall introduced Companions A. A. Dame, Michael Roulstone and Asa Raymond as a committee duly appointed by Jonathan Gage, Grand High Priest of said Grand Chapter to examine this Chapter, who immediately attended to the duties assigned them. The Grand Officers were then conducted by said committee into the hall and received in due form to attend the consecration and installation of the Chapter. The general procession being formed repaired to the Congregational meeting-house in Princeton, where after receiving an excellent address from Rev. Companion Alpheus Harding, the officers of the Chapter were publickly installed. After being reconducted to said hall, the committee to whom was referred the petition of a number of Companions wishing for a Chapter in the town of Worcester reported: "That in the opinion of the committee, the petition of the Companions may with propriety be granted;" which report was unanimously adopted.

The first name upon the Charter of Worcester Royal Arch Chapter is that of Isaiah Thomas.

Thomas Lodge of Palmer was also named for him and the new Lodge in Worcester recently instituted is named Isaiah Thomas Lodge.

Excellent Companion Isaiah Thomas, who was present at the Institution, made a donation of \$50 to the Chapter, upon receipt of which, the Council of the Chapter were appointed a committee to tender him the thanks of the Chapter for his liberal present, also to publish the Communication he this day made to the Chapter. Voted that the thanks of the Chapter be extended to M. E. Companion Harding for his learned and very appropriate address delivered this day and request a copy for the press. We are fortunate in having a copy of this address, the title page of the same reading, "A Discourse delivered in Princeton, June 24, A. L. 5823, before the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts and a numerous collection of Companions and Brethren of the Masonic Family, on the interesting occasion of the installation of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter, June 24, 1823. By Alpheus Harding, A. M., Pastor of the Church in New Salem; printed in Wendell by J. Metcalf."

From a Communication published in the Massachusetts Spy, I glean a few additional references to that eventful day in the history of Thomas Chapter.

"The festival of St. John, the Baptist, was celebrated yesterday at Princeton. When the sun rose in the East, to open and adorn the day, the sky was overcast, which spread a gloom over the feelings and prospects of all who wished to attend, but as it approached subridian height, it shown in full effulgence and a goodly number of Companions, brethren and spectators convened After the conclusion of the ceremonies, the company was called from labor to refreshment and set down to tables judiciously arranged and bountifully spread with all the delicious fare the season could afford. After a few toasts, the fraternity remembering the admonishon of St. Paul, 'that all things should be done decently and in good order,' separated and before the sun set in the West, to close the day, few there were who had not reached their place of abode, highly gratified with the festivities of the day."

From records of Aurora Lodge it appears that twenty members of the Lodge were in Princeton on that day. I have before me the following bills of expenses paid for that day.

Princeton, June 24, 1823.

Received of Thomas Chapter, Thirty Dollars, by the hand of Companion John Whitney, Treasurer, in full for all expenses of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts in consecrating and installing its officers except that incurred in Princeton.

WILLIAM BARRY, Grand Marshall.

Princeton, July 2, 1823. Received from John Whitney, Treasurer of Thomas R. A. Chapter, Thirty Eight Dollars, it being for stage fare in full for Grand Chapter of Boston.

ABEL LARKIN & CO.

Boston, June 24, 1823. Received from Thomas Chapter, One Hundred and Ten Dollars in full for Charter.

THOMAS JACKSON, Grand Treasurer.

The Committee of Arrangements report later:

Paid for building stage in meeting house	\$1.00
Publishing Mr. Harding's discourse	26.00
	\$27.00

Committee of Arrangements for the Installation of T. R. A. Chapter
To P. Richardson, Dr.

1823

June:

25. To entertaining the Installing Council from *Monday evening to Wednesday morning and spirits for ditto* and keeping Mr. Butler's horse, and oats \$13.65

The following letter in our archives, in reference to participation in the exercises of that day, is of interest to Fitchburg people.

Fitchburg, June 24, 1823.

Most Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe, and Companions and Brethering of other degrees, assembled at Princeton for the purpose of installing Thomas Royal Arch Chapter and participating in the joyful festivities of so glorious a day:

I regret exceedingly that my avocations at this time are such as will deprive me of the pleasure. I do, however, believe my Companions and Brethering, when they consider the severe loss of my paper mill, all my

stock and utensils, last winter by fire, which was estimated at \$3500, and that I have in part erected a new one where my constant attendance is required will be sufficient apology.

My Companions and Bretheren, I am in need of assistance by my benevolent and charitable friends, should I be so fortunate as to possess any, will you my Companions and Brethern consider my case and your decision will be satisfactory and gratefully acknowledged.

Your Companion and Brother,
LEONARD BURBANK.

This letter shows that Fitchburg Masons were conversant with what was being done in Princeton that day. It is also of interest, as this refers to the first paper mill erected in Fitchburg, and the beginning of the present great paper mill industry of our city. This mill stood on Water street, where is now the Union Foundry. A fire in those days was a very serious affair as the ever-present insurance agent of today did not exist and there were only a few small companies doing any business in the state. It was therefore nothing uncommon for an appeal like this for assistance to come to members of our fraternity through the Lodges and Chapters.

At the Annual Communication in November, 1823, the following letter was read and ordered entered on the records:

Princeton, November 12, 1823.

Rev. Samuel Clarke, High Priest of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter:

Sir: Respecting a Communication received from you on Aug. 5, 1823, I have made the same known to the singers and now take the liberty to reply and assure you and your Companions (if you please to make it known to them), that whatever was done by us on that day to add to the interest of the occasion was done from the pure principal of duty and therefore done with pleasure. We only regret we did not do more and better, but if the selection of musick and the performance of it meet the approbation of so large a number of respectable Masons, as to merit the thanks we have received, we feel still more gratified and we hope and trust that the fruit resulting from the transactions of that day will be so good and so visible among us as to be admired by all and the day ever remembered by us with pleasure and that we shall ever see and realize how good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. May the Lord command the same blessing on the Lodge that day installed, and on all societies whose aim it is to cultivate Friendship, Morality and Brotherly love as on Mt. Zion, even life for ever more.

ADONIJAB HOWE, President.

The Charter that day issued reads:

*To all the Exalted and Enlightened under the Canopy of Heaven,
Wheresoever assembled or dispersed, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter in
and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sendeth*

GREETING :

{ L. S. }

JONA. GAGE,
G. H. Priest

BE IT KNOWN, That in pursuance of the Powers vested in us by the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, and for sundry good and sufficient reasons and causes, us thereunto moving, being first fully informed of the good Moral Character, and reposing special trust and confidence in the Masonic abilities of the following Companions of this degree, all resident in or near the town of Princeton, in the

County of Worcester, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, have constituted, and by these presents do constitute Samuel Clarke, Timothy Whiting, Moses Thomas, Hezekiah F. Stone, Jonathan Bailey, Nahum Rice, Charles Russell, Clark Mirick, William Howe, John G. Davis, Luke Eastman, John Whitney, Merrill Davis, and Isaac Bassett, Jr., together with all and every their regular Associates, Companions and Successors, into a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, by the name and style of THOMAS ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, to take rank, date and precedence from the Eleventh day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one: And we do hereby authorize and empower them the said Samuel Clarke, Timothy Whiting, Moses Thomas, &c., or any nine of them, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in the said town of Princeton, and to exalt at their discretion, any Master Masons to the degree of Royal Arch Masons; and for that purpose to open and hold Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, agreeably to the ancient Usages and Customs of Royal Arch Masons; and also to make and establish any good and wholesome By-Laws and Regulations, for the government of said Chapter and Lodges, so always as such By-Laws and Regulations are not contrary to the Constitution of the said General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, or of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the same at pleasure to alter or repeal; and further, to order and establish Dues and Penalties, and Fees for the admission of Candidates and Members, as to them, or a major part of them, and their associates, shall seem meet and proper. And we do hereby appoint our Excellent Companion Rev. Samuel Clarke, first High Priest, Excellent Companion Timothy Whiting, Esq., first King, and Excellent Companion Moses Thomas, Esq., first Scribe of said Chapter.

AND WE do hereby enjoin upon the Companions of the said Chapter, that they, or any number of them, do not at any time hold any private meetings or assemblies for Masonic Purposes, except in the presence of a Companion appointed by the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High

Priest, Grand King, or Grand Scribe, or in the presence of either the High Priest, King or Scribe of the said Chapter for the time being, or a Companion appointed by said Officers, or either of them. And further, that they strictly and regularly pay, or cause to be paid, annually, to this Grand Chapter, all their lawful dues by the hands of their High Priest, King and Scribe, or their Proxies. And it is hereby absolutely required of the said High Priest, King and Scribe, for the time being, that they attend regularly, either in person or by their Proxies, at all regular communications of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

In Witness Whereof, we, the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, have hereunto subscribed our names, and caused the Seal of the said Grand Chapter to be affixed, and the same to be attested by the Grand Secretary, this twenty-fourth day of June, Anno Lucis five thousand eight hundred and twenty-three.

PAUL DEAN, Deputy Grand High Priest.

CALEB BUTLER, Grand King.

DANIEL BAXTER, Grand Scribe.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING, Grand Secretary.

Boston, 24th June, 1823. Received of Thomas Chapter, one hundred and ten dollars, in full for this Charter.

\$110.

THOS. JACKSON, G. Treasurer.

The names appearing on the Charter of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter are Samuel Clarke, Timothy Whiting, Moses Thomas, Hezekiah F. Stone, Jonathan Bailey, Nahum Rice, Charles Russell, Clark Mirrick, William Howe, John G. Davis, Luke Eastman, John Whitney, Merrill Davis and Isaac Bassett, Jr.

They were men who held high positions in the towns in which they lived and were regarded by all who knew them as worthy representatives of a true manhood. They have all, many years ago, finished their task here below, and their record is closed. It is always of interest to know something regarding the personality of the prime movers in the starting of any successful enterprise. There is usually some one individual whose leadership was the inspiring force in its organization.

Thomas R. A. Chapter owes much to Rev. Samuel Clarke, its first High Priest, and the only member of this Chapter ever elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. "He was born in New Boston, N. H., April 21, 1791. His family belonged to a strongly marked class of immigrants, who took up and



REV. SAMUEL CLARKE

First High Priest 1821-24
M. E. Grand High Priest 1829-31

retained the townships along the Upper Merrimack and its tributaries. They were originally from Scotland, full of Scotch blood and trained in the strictest dogmas of the Presbyterian Church. A marked soberness and thoughtfulness, the old Scotch reverence for the clergy, soberness of demeanor and strictness of discipline, lingered long in the colony and went down from generation to generation."

Mr. Clarke was born and reared in the midst of this influence. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1812, and was a theological student of Dr. Channing. He was called to Princeton, by vote of the town, and ordained June 18, 1817. The more liberal doctrines preached by Mr. Clarke caused some dissatisfaction and the disaffected members formed a new society. But Mr. Clarke continued his pastorate for fifteen years, until June 18, 1832; soon after he became pastor of the Uxbridge Congregational Church. Blake's history of Princeton says of him: "He seems to have been a man of ability and of excellent spirit in the trying position in which he was placed."

During his residence in Princeton he was active in public affairs and a man of influence in the community. The ministers of those days were not overpaid for their services as I find Mr. Clarke's largest salary in Princeton was \$600. For 26 years he continued his pastorate in Uxbridge, until on a Sunday in July, 1859, while in the midst of his discourse, he was stricken down, and on November 19 saw the last of earth. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of people of the various religious societies of Uxbridge. The business of the village was suspended; the stores were closed, and, although the day was stormy, the whole community seemed to wish to pay their last tribute of respect to the memory of a good man and truly Christian minister. It was well remarked by one of the company at the grave: "There lies a man who was more beloved than any other man in the town of Uxbridge."

Such was he, who can well be termed the "Father of Thomas Chapter." He was Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for five years, and in the biographical sketches of the Grand Chaplains, published by the Grand Lodge, extended mention is made of Rev. Mr. Clarke. He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter for many years and elected Grand Scribe, 1826 to 1828, and Grand High Priest from 1829 to 1831. His term as High Priest was during the

days when the Anti-Masonic craze was at its height. The quiet dignity and forceful presentation of the duties of the members of the Masonic fraternity in those trying days, as contained in his circular letter issued to the Chapters in 1831, gives us a glimpse of the temper of mind and earnestness of purpose of one, who was not afraid to stand forth bodily as the representative of our fraternity when it required courage and steadfastness of purpose to do so.

*To the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of
Massachusetts:*

In authorizing the Grand Secretary to publish and transmit to you the Annual Report of the Grand Chapter, I embrace the opportunity to accompany it with a few remarks, which may not be deemed unimportant or useless at the present time.

Every member of our fraternity who understands the principles of the Masonic institution, knows that friendship, unanimity and peace are its strength, its support, its ornament, and its glory. Every one who possesses the pure, benevolent, affectionate spirit of Masonry, rejoices in every indication that harmony and all good feeling reign in and characterize all the transactions of our societies; for he then has a pledge and feels a confidence, that the institution will successfully withstand all external opposition and be permanent, and not only permanent, but a blessing also to its friends and the world.

The Communications of this Grand Chapter have always been attended with interest. The condescending, benevolent, peaceful spirit of Masonry, and I may add of Christianity, has been visible in, and has distinctly marked all its deliberations and proceedings. Its records, *the fairness and integrity of which cannot be impeached*, afford pleasing and incontrovertible evidence, that our association is founded on strictly moral and benevolent principles, and that these principles have invariably directed its transactions.

It is with much satisfaction that I now inform the companions under this jurisdiction, that the communications of the Grand Chapter, the parent and the bulwork of Royal Arch Masonry in this Commonwealth, continue to be attended with unabated interest; and that harmony and peace, and the most disinterested and benevolent feelings characterize all its deliberations and purposes. In no period since the foundation of the Chapter, have the members been more firmly united in the bonds of fraternal affection, or discovered a stronger attachment to, or interest in the permanency and usefulness of the institution. In our meetings there is but one feeling, and this, attachment and unyielding adherence to the principles of Masonry; and there is but one purpose, and this, to adopt every prudent and judicious measure to promote the prosperity and best good of the Subordinate Chapters, to preserve our institution from injury, secure its



HARRY F. ALLEN
High Priest 1906



ARCHIE E. PERKINS, M. D.
High Priest 1911



F. A. WATSON
High Priest 1910



WILLIAM A. PEARCE
High Priest 1904-05

permanency, and to render it, as it may be, a public blessing. I am persuaded that this information, companions, must give you, and every friend of our order, and every lover of good principles, high, unmixed satisfaction. It must be a great gratification to you to know, what I confidently assure you is the fact, that while storms and tempests are raging without, perfect peace, calmness and harmony reign within our sacred temple. And I am convinced that this knowledge will inspire you with confidence and firmness, and be a fresh and powerful incitement *to go on your way rejoicing.*

I am aware that hints are often circulated that the Charters of our Masonic institutions will be destroyed and our association dissolved; these are not the suggestions of our friends, and are, we trust, equally void of truth as of good feeling; for be assured my companions, such a purpose has never been, even the most indirectly, suggested in this Grand Chapter, or by any of our members,—no, my beloved brethren, we are firm and united in the faith that our Grand Masonic Charter, universally acknowledged by the *good* and the *true*, can never be given up, while wisdom is esteemed, or virtue honored. Setting aside altogether the powerful and irresistible *Masonic* reasons, why our Institution should not and cannot be dissolved, I speak advisedly when I say, that we owe it to society, to government, to religion and to the world, to adhere to it with unabated and unyielding firmness. I feel morally certain, that the same spirit which is now seeking with so much earnestness, and with so much injustice, the destruction of Masonry, will, if this purpose can be accomplished, attempt the subversion of every institution, which is now the glory and happiness of this land. We know, and the public know, or *may* know, that our association is purely a social, benevolent, moral one. If we yield this to those who call for its surrender, a demand will soon be made upon us to yield something else; until every thing shall be gone, which is dear to us as men, as Christians, and as members of civil society. I do not say that all the same men will seek the overthrow of other good institutions who are opposed to the Masonic; for I am ready to believe that there are honest and good men who entertain prejudices against Masonry; but I do say, that the spirit which is seeking our destruction, will, if not resisted and checked, destroy every thing which we hold dear. We owe it, therefore, to religion and government, to be firm and unwavering in our adherence to an innocent, benevolent, good institution; and religion and government, as they regard their own welfare, will lend us their countenance and support; while we continue to maintain the character of virtuous men and citizens, they will not suffer us to be injured for supporting our just rights.

I have expressed to you, companions, my own convictions, and my views of duty. If your convictions and views accord with mine, as I am persuaded they must, you will permit me to advise you to be firm and unwavering in your support of the institution. You will meet with trials, perhaps suffer injury. Let none of these things move you. When re-

viled, revile not again; return good for evil; possess and manifest always a forbearing, peaceful, benevolent spirit; pursue your way with prudence and discretion, and never let your good be evil spoken of. In your occasional meetings, which the fear of censure should not induce you to omit, you may improve your minds, assist each other in cultivating all good dispositions, and strengthen your affection for, and interest in each other. And while you become more and more firmly united in the bonds of affection, let it be seen that Masonic benevolence is not selfish; that your charity and good will are as extensive as the family of man. Endeavor by judicious conversation, and by pure example, to obviate and remove the doubts and objections of those who are honestly opposed to us; and to shew to the world that our institution is in fact what it professes to be, a strictly moral and benevolent one. Thus doing, no designs formed against you can ultimately prosper.

With a deep interest in the Masonic institution, and with the best wishes for the prosperity of the Subordinate Chapters,

I am your friend and companion,

SAMUEL CLARKE, *Grand^h High Priest.*

Princeton, Nov. 1, 1831.

Charles Russell appears to have been the one who was always prompt to advance the cash when any call came to the Chapter, and was an active worker during all the years in Princeton.

He was born in Princeton, March 4, 1793, and passed nearly all his life in that town, dying Dec. 31, 1882, at the advanced age of nearly 93 years. The store of Mirick and Russell was for many years the business center of Princeton. Mr. Russell was clerk in the post office from its establishment in 1812, until his appointment as Postmaster in 1816, an office he held for 30 years. He was Town Clerk for 26 years, Representative and Senator, and served as a member of the Governor's Council. He was the father of Hon. Charles Theodore Russell. The building known as Mason Hall, and home of Thomas Chapter, erected by Charles Russell in 1822 is still standing, a substantial brick structure of two stories now occupied as a dwelling.

Clark Mirick, the partner of Charles Russell, was born in Princeton, Dec. 22, 1782, and died Aug. 19, 1828. He was prominent in public affairs, serving as Selectman and in many other town offices.

John Whitney was born in Princeton, Dec. 31, 1792, and died May 15, 1846. He was a carpenter and builder by trade, a Colonel of the Militia, and prominent in town affairs, and served as Moderator for sixteen years.

Of the other names on the Charter. I have found few details. Companion Luke Eastman, the first secretary of the Chapter, has left us an example of beautiful penmanship in our records.

In the library of the Masonic Fraternity of Fitchburg, I find a book of 200 pages, entitled "Masonic Melodies, set to musick by Brother Luke Eastman, 1818."

The records of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts for the Stated Communication, June 10, 1817, read: "A petition from Companion Luke Eastman, (of King Hiram Chapter), praying that a committee may be appointed by this Grand Chapter, to examine a collection of Masonic Songs, etc., which he is about to publish, was read, and Ex. Companions Henry Towle, Jona. Gage, Robert Lash, Jr., John J. Loring and Zach. G. Whitmore, were appointed such committee with power to grant certificate of appreciation, if they think proper." And the volume before referred to bears their approval certificate.

Smoking in any Masonic body in Massachusetts would be considered today highly improper, but in former times, eating, smoking, and drinking were regular occurrences at Masonic meetings, as shown by the By-Laws of the first regularly organized Lodge on this continent.

St. John's Lodge of Boston, where we read: "No brother or brothers shall eat any victuals in the lodge room, while the lodge is open, without leave of the Master or Wardens, or call for any liquor or tobacco without leave, as aforesaid."

November 12, 1823. Thomas Chapter Voted, "That the Tyler be exempted from any expense for refreshment for the year ensuing."

At that time refreshment was supposed to mean some kind of liquor. It was the almost universal custom of those days to offer a generous sip of something on every social occasion. Even the towns appropriated money for grog for soldiers' widows and the mug of flip was set to heat whenever the minister was seen coming; the raising of the meeting house or the ordination of the minister were never concluded with a glass of cold water, and the country store included in its stock a liberal supply of both dry and wet goods, and it is doubtful if there was any more over-indulgence than we have seen in later days of strict enforcement regarding liquor.

Following the universal custom of those days, refreshments were provided at every meeting, and, as required by the by-laws, were paid for by contributions of those present.

The following are copies of some of the original bills rendered to the Chapter and still in its archives. They are interesting as showing the life of those times and also as to the prices charged in the days when the Volstead Act was not even dreamed of.

It is noticeable that the finance committee in recognition of their laborious duties were supplied at their Annual Meeting with their "refreshment" at the expense of the other members of the Chapter.

As in November of each year we find items like this: "Dinner for the Committee, \$1.25; spirits for the same, 12½c."

That the contributions were liberal for those times is also shown in the fact that the refreshment bill for the year ending November, 1825, amounted to \$11.16. Contributions, \$14.37, leaving a balance of \$3.21 credit to new account.

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter for Refreshment
To Merick & Russell, Dr., Cr.

		Dr.	Cr.
1822			
Oct. 30:			
To	1 qt. brandy	.50	
	1 qt. W. I. rum	.31	
	1 pt. gin	.16	
	1½ lbs. loaf sugar	.30	\$1.27
Nov. 27:			\$1.75
	1¼ lbs. loaf sugar	.25	
	3 pts. brandy	.75	
	3 pts. W. I. rum	.47	
	1 pt. wine	.19	
	16 biscuits	.16	\$1.87
Dec. 25:			\$1.50
	1 pt. brandy	.25	
	½ lb. loaf sugar	.10	.35
1823			
Jan. 22:			
	1 qt. W. I. rum	.31	
	1 qt. brandy	.50	
	1 lb. loaf sugar	.20	
	6 lbs. cheese	.42	
	Crackers	.25	
	1 pt. W. I. rum	.16	
	1 pt. brandy	.25	\$2.09
			\$2.00

		Dr.	Cr.
Feb. 19:			
	2 qts. brandy	1.00	
	1 pt. W. I. rum	.16	
	1¼ lbs. loaf sugar	.25	\$1.41
1826			\$1.75
Feb. 23:			
	1 qt. Holland gin	.31	
	1 qt. brandy	.44	
	1 lb. loaf sugar	.20	.95
Mar. 24:			\$1.25
	1 pt. W. I. rum	.16	
	1 pt. brandy	.22	
	½ lb. loaf sugar	.10	\$.48
April 19:			\$1.00
	1 pt. brandy	.22	
	1 pt. W. I. rum and Holland gin	.16	
	½ lb. loaf sugar	.10	.48
May 16:			
	1 qt. brandy	.44	
	1 pt. gin	.16	
	1 pt. W. I. rum	.16	
	1 lb. loaf sugar	.20	
	1 pt. gin	.16	
	Cheese biscuits	.48	
	6 mugs punch	1.20	\$2.80
June 14:			\$1.83
	1 pt. beer	.06	
	1 pt. W. I. rum	.16	
	1 pt. brandy	.22	
	1 lb. loaf sugar	.20	
	1 pt. brandy	.22	\$.86
Aug. 16:			\$1.12
	1 pt. gin	.16	
	1¼ qts. brandy	.55	
	1 lb. loaf sugar	.20	

That intemperance, however, was not countenanced, is evidenced by the following letter on file in our archives.

Holden, April 15, A. L., 5825.

Companions of Thomas Chapter:

A retrospective view of certain circumstances which transpired in this hall some months ago, has given me much uneasiness and has been a ceaseless source of bitterness and sorrow to a mind susceptible of reflection and a spirit not too proud to confess those faults which are associated with fallible man. So far as inebriety is reproachful, I have

merited your displeasure and as a humble penitent I claim your sympathies. I humbly acknowledge that intemperance ought never to come within these sacred walls; yet I blush to own you have an undoubted right to say as Nathan to David, "Thou art the man." I confess I have wronged you by my unmanly and un-Masonic conduct and now pray you to forgive me. Apologies would be in vain or I would give you many reasons why I was overcome at that time. I have resolved on a reformation and my hope is my God that he will strengthen my resolutions.

I am desirous of being cordially received as a Brother and Companion among you or not at all. Please return me your feelings on this subject.

With much respect and a mixture of sorrow and joy. I subscribe myself a friend to Masonry and Thomas Royal Arch Chapter.

Jan. 11, 1824. A committee was appointed to confer with Worcester Chapter regarding matters of mutual interest, who reported May 12, 1824, "that it has been arranged that a literal construction of Art. 14 of the Regulations of the Grand Chapter be adhered to by Thomas and Worcester Chapters."

This regulation had reference to amount to be charged for the degrees, to wit:—"Thirty-one dollars, except the candidate be a regular minister of the gospel, in which case the Chapter exalting him, may at their discretion, remit the whole or any part of the fees, and no vote of hand shall be taken by any Chapter for the fee, or any part of the fees, due on the exaltation or advancement of any candidate."

June 2, 1825. The Companions of Thomas Chapter received an invitation to attend the "Institution of Worcester County Encampment of Knights Templars which occurred in Holden, June 24, 1825. Several of the Charter members of the Encampment, were members of Thomas Chapter; among them were its first Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General and from Thomas Chapter came the first petitions for the Orders of Knighthood.

We find a copy of the return of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter to the Grand Chapter for the year ending September 1, 1825, showing list of 14 officers with names of 16 other Companions making total membership 30. Three candidates had been exalted during the year, all of them clergymen.

At the Annual Meeting, November 23, 1825, Rev. and Ex. Companion Samuel Clarke declined to serve longer as High Priest,

"and a hearty vote of thanks was given him for his faithful service." Companion John G. Davis was chosen High Priest, and was re-elected in November, 1826.

January 18, 1826. Thomas Chapter voted to celebrate the nativity of St. John the Baptist, June 24, at Hubbardston and extended an invitation to Worcester County Encampment Knights Templars, Worcester Chapter, and Thompson of Rutland, Morning Star of Worcester, Trinity of Lancaster, Aurora of Leominster and Harris of Templeton, Lodges to join in the festivities of the day.

At the Regular Communication of the Grand Chapter, June 13, 1826, the records read:

Comp. Charles Russell of Thomas Chapter, gave notice that at the annual communication of the Grand Chapter, he should move that the 14th article of the Constitution be amended, by striking out the words thirty-one dollars, being the fees for the admission of candidates, and insert in lieu thereof twenty-five dollars.

And Sept. 26, 1826, the records read:

Comp. Charles Russell called up his motion, of which notice was given at a previous meeting, to amend the 14th article of the Constitution, by striking out the words thirty-one dollars, and inserting in lieu thereof twenty-five dollars, when after a full discussion it was Voted, to adopt the amendment.

The records of Grand Chapter for December 12, 1826, read:

A petition from sundry companions of the town of Fitchburg and vicinity, praying for leave to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in said town, by the name of Fitchburg Chapter, was read, but it not being accompanied with the necessary certificate of recommendation, it was Voted, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

At the meeting on December 25, 1826, Thomas Chapter, in celebration of the day, had a musical program, and I find a charge for refreshments:

Dinner for music.	\$1.75	
Brandy for music.	.46	
	—	\$2.21

Which seems to have been their entire remuneration, and the Companions appeared to have abstained from the use entirely that day.

January 10, 1827. A committee was appointed to take into consideration the petition of Companions residing in Fitchburg and Leominster for the removal of the Chapter to Fitchburg.

February 7, 1827. Companions Oliver Fox and John H. Wheeler of Fitchburg are recorded as visitors, who were evidently present to hear the report of the committee on question of removal to Fitchburg, who reported as follows:

"In coming to a decision upon the important subject before them, your committee have wished to divest themselves of all prejudice and un-Masonic feelings and, while they have regarded the existence and interests of this Chapter they have felt for the situation and respected the feelings and wishes of their Companions the Petitioners.

"Your committee are convinced that the establishment of a Chapter in Fitchburg would endanger, if not destroy the existence of this Chapter. They cannot therefore consistently, with their Masonic obligations recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted. At the same time they are unwilling to deprive the petitioners entirely of privileges and conveniences which they wish to enjoy. They have no doubt from various representations which have been made to them that if a Chapter can be opened for work occasionally at Fitchburg, a large number of Worthy Masons would receive the R. A. degree, who otherwise would not on account of the great distance from any Chapter. Could this Chapter have the fees which would arise from the exaltation of such Masons they would soon institute a fund which would add much to the responsibility and usefulness of the Chapter and better promote the great objects of Masonry, than would the installation of a new Chapter in this vicinity. Your committee are not anxious that the meetings of this Chapter should always be held in this place. They can conceive of no objection to holding meetings of this Chapter occasionally in other places, provided the good of Masonry would thereby be promoted. From a wish therefore to accomodate the petitioners and at the same time preserve the existence of this Chapter, your committee would recommend that



FORREST A. BLISS

High Priest 1918

District Deputy Grand High Priest, 11th Capitular District, 1922-23

Thomas Chapter hold its meetings one-half of the time in Princeton and the other half of the time in Fitchburg at such times as may hereafter be concluded upon. Provided the petitioners are satisfied with the arrangement and withdraw their application from the Grand Chapter and that measures be taken in concurrence with them to carry this plan into effect as soon as convenient which report was unanimously adopted."

The records of the Grand Chapter for June 12, 1827, read:

A communication from Thomas Chapter in Princeton, requesting leave to hold their future meetings six months in each year in the town of Fitchburg, was read, and on motion it was Voted, That Comps. Abraham A. Dame, John J. Loring and Richard S. Spofford be a committee to consider and report thereon.

Grand Chapter, Sept. 11, 1827.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Chapter, having considered the subject thereof, respectfully report:

That the prayer of the petition of this respectable Chapter is for an authority to hold alternate meetings, by semi-annual changes at Princeton and Fitchburg. The reasons assigned are, that as the members of this Chapter are nearly in equal numbers from each town, and there not being a sufficient number of companions in Fitchburg to justify the institution, in that place, of a new Chapter, those living in Fitchburg are subject to inconvenience and expense in the discharge of their Masonic duties; the question therefore to be decided is, whether the inconvenience complained of will justify the Grand Chapter in granting a privilege which will in all probability be attended with many embarrassing consequences. Your Committee are of opinion that many Chapters under this jurisdiction are subject to similar, if not greater inconveniences, and would be entitled to all the rights and privileges which a precedent placed on the records of this Grand Chapter would seem to warrant. Among the many evils to be apprehended by such an indulgence are—a tendency to disturb the harmony of the present system—to unsettle the location of Chapters, and to encourage an itinerant spirit which the Grand Chapter have hitherto thought it their duty to suppress. For these reasons, your Committee are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

ABRAHAM A. DAME,

JOHN J. LORING,

Committee.

On motion, Voted, to accept the above report.

June 24, 1827. The Chapter united with Harris Lodge of Templeton in celebrating the day at Westminster.

Nov., 1827. Comp. Charles Russell was elected High Priest and re-elected in 1828 and 1829.

Dec. 25, 1827. Voted, as there will be two full moons in January, the next meeting of the Chapter be held on the last Wednesday in January.

June 24, 1828. The Chapter accepted the invitation of Aurora Lodge and celebrated the day in Leominster.

Aug. 12, 1829. Voted, to hold four meetings per year on second Wednesday in November, February, May and August at 9 o'clock a. m.

November, 1830. Companion Alex Dustin of Westminster was elected High Priest and re-elected November 10, 1831. This was the last recorded meeting in Princeton, at that meeting the Finance Committee reporting:

Amount from previous year	\$13.62
Amount due Grand Chapter	\$6.00
Amount due for rent	4.00
	—————\$10.00
Balance	<u>\$3.62</u>

Returns to Grand Chapter for year ending September 1, 1824, show 16 officers and total membership, 33; 1826, show 16 officers and total membership, 30; 1828, show 16 officers and total membership, 33.

For 1824, 3 candidates, including 1 clergyman; 1826, 9 candidates, including 4 clergymen; 1828, 4 candidates.

These are the last petitions received in Princeton, and this was caused by the Anti-Masonic Crusade then raging with intense bitterness.

In these days of peace and prosperity for the Masonic institutions, it may be well for us to consider what our fathers had to suffer on account of their membership in the fraternity.

In 1826, commenced the anti-Masonic crusade so vividly described by M. E. Companion Charles W. Moore, one of the most valiant defenders during its days of trial and temporary upheaval of the Masonic institution.

"That remarkable and most groundless persecution breaking out in the westerly part of the State of New York and speedily spreading itself over all the neighboring states. In 1830 and 1831 it raged with unmitigated violence and virulence in Massachusetts. Here as elsewhere, it was carried into all relations of social life; the ties of kinship and friendship were rudely severed; the springs of sympathy were dried up; confidence between man and man was destroyed; the dark demon of persecution ran riot throughout the length and breadth of the land; members of the Masonic institution were broken up in their business, denied the lawful exercise of their civil franchise, driven with ignominy from all public office, from the jury box and from the churches. Subject to insult, injury and contumely, in their daily walk, hunted down as felons and only saved at times from personal violence through the cowardness of their cruel persecutors. No crime was too base to be charged to the Masonic institution. People in those days took their politics like their religion, very seriously; and shrewd and scheming politicians worked up a furor and kindled a flame in an attempt to destroy Masonry, which they branded not only as a civil, but also a religious evil; and with Masonry were soon included all other secret societies. It was even claimed that Masonry was attempting to introduce royalty in this country as they had officers denominated, Kings, Priests and Scribes. The high standing of many prominent public men, who were members, went for naught in the minds of those who had become crazed with the passion of the hour. In Vermont laws were passed hostile to Masonry and not a lodge survived."

In 1832 the anti-Masons appeared as a national political party and nominated a candidate for President, who however, only carried one state (Vermont), and Andrew Jackson, a member of the fraternity, was elected. Is it any wonder that under such conditions the institution ceased to grow, that Lodges, Chapters, and Commanderries for a time closed their doors, and meetings ceased to be held with any regularity, and that there were no candidates for the degrees. From March, 1827, to December, 1844, not a lodge was

chartered in Massachusetts, not a Chapter organized, and of the 101 Lodges, two-thirds went into a state of innocuous desuetude, and of the 22 Chapters only five kept up their meetings. The last recorded meeting of Thomas Chapter was held on Nov. 10, 1831.

While the Companions of Thomas Chapter held no regular meetings, doubtless there were many informal gatherings "where two or three were gathered together" discussed the good of the order, and knowing that "truth is mighty and will prevail," quietly pursued the even tenor of their way, and trusting to the justness of their course, looked forward with hope to the dawning of a new day. There were here and there a few of the fraternity who under the pressure of circumstances renounced their connection with the fraternity, but so far as I can learn not a Companion of Thomas Chapter was included in that number.

The date of Masonic renaissance may be fixed about the year 1840. By that time the anti-Masonic fever had run its course. A changing public feeling was everywhere apparent. Inspiration for renewed endeavor filled the minds of members of the fraternity, and the M. Excellent Grand High Priest in 1840 congratulated the Companions that the heavy cloud, which had cast a dark and threatening aspect over the Masonic Sky was passing away and our institution was renewing its activity and displaying its original beauty and loveliness; he cautioned against too much elation, and earnestly impressed upon their minds to seriously reflect upon the past, the present and the future, avoiding the errors of the past, and determine in the present wisely for the future. That only by a strict observance of the ancient landmarks can we hope to perpetuate the institution that has been entrusted to our care, urging every Royal Arch Mason, under his jurisdiction to so conduct himself in the Chapter and before the world, corresponding with his professions and the principles of Freemasonry, that we may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men and convince the world of the excellence of our institution.

During most of the ten years from 1830 to 1840, the Grand Chapter was kept alive by three Chapters: St. Andrew and St. Paul of Boston, and Mt. Zion of Stoughton; these with Adoniram of Attleboro and Sutton of Sutton, the two latter just managing to keep up their returns and dues. With improving prospects the Grand Chapter took up an investigation of delinquent Chapters. Many of them

had sold their property, and their small membership had been greatly reduced by death and removals; and with no additions had almost passed out of existence.

At the Stated Meeting of the Grand Chapter, September 8, 1840, the Charters of King Solomon of Charlestown, Washington of Salem, Thomas of Princeton, Worcester of Worcester, Mt. Horeb of Lowell, King Cyrus of Newburyport, King Hiram of Greenwich, Franklin of Greenfield, Rising Sun of Nantucket and Concord of Concord were suspended, leaving only the five Chapters above mentioned in good standing.

The Treasurer of the Grand Chapter at the Annual Meeting, September 12, 1843, reported total receipts for the year as \$67.50, and that there is now a balance in the treasury of 82 cents.

In September, 1844, the finance committee of the Grand Chapter voiced the feeling of returning prosperity for the craft, in reporting that the total receipts of the Grand Chapter for the year had amounted to \$67.82, while the disbursements were only \$43, adding "your committee are gratified, as doubtless is every Companion, to find that the receipts for the past year have exceeded the expenditures by the sum of \$24. Already indicating an increase of prosperity and a more healthy condition of finances than for many years." The committee, from these improved conditions, recommended an increase of the Grand Secretary's salary to \$10. The year before they had recommended, "the secretary be allowed (\$8) eight dollars for his services. They would gladly have proposed a larger sum, but the state of the treasury will not admit of it."

In 1846, Morning Star of Springfield, on Feb. 11, followed by Worcester on March 10, with Mt. Horeb of Lowell, asked for reinstatement and, October 12, 1847, Thomas Chapter also came before the Grand Chapter.

In 1845 Aurora Lodge removed from Leominster to Fitchburg. Although their membership did not exceed 30, they promptly took up the subject of the renewal of celebration of St. John's Day at their first meeting, May 19, 1845, and for June 24, 1846, arranged for an extensive program which was carried out with great success. A full account appears in Centennial History of Aurora Lodge. The pres-

ence of over 600 members of the fraternity in their procession, including the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter officers with their banners, also Boston Encampment of Knights Templars, aroused great interest among the Royal Arch Masons of Fitchburg and vicinity.

After consultation, a petition was prepared asking that the Charter of Thomas Chapter be restored and the Chapter be removed to Fitchburg (as it had been contemplated many years before). This petition was signed by the following Companions: John D. Pratt, Jacob W. Watson, Reuben Blood, Joel Pratt, John H. Wheeler, Stephen T. Farwell, Cyrus Winship, Moses Thomas, Nahum Rice, former members of Thomas Chapter, two of them original Charter members of the Chapter.

The records of the Grand Chapter for October 12, 1847, have the following:

A competent number of Royal Arch Masons, late members of Thomas Chapter, at Princeton, having petitioned this Grand Chapter, that the Charter of said Chapter may be restored to them, and the Chapter removed to Fitchburg, it was Voted, That M. E. Comps. E. A. Raymond, Keith, and Bradford, be appointed a Committee to consider and report on the expediency of granting the prayer of the petitioners.

The Committee having held a consultation in relation to the matter committed to them, subsequently reported, that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted. A debate arose on the acceptance of this report, when, on motion of M. E. Comp. Hammatt, it was so far amended, as that the Grand High Priest be authorized, on receiving the Charter of Thomas Chapter, to endorse the same to the petitioners, provided he has sufficient evidence, that the former records and regalia of the Chapter aforesaid, are in possession of the petitioners. The report was then accepted.

The following endorsement is upon the back of the Charter:

WHEREAS, at the annual communication of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, held at Boston, on the 12th day of October, A. D. 1847, the Grand High Priest was authorized on receiving the Charter of the late Thomas Chapter, at Princeton, to endorse it to the petitioners for its revival, with authority to hold the same at Fitchburg, "provided he has sufficient evidence that the former records and regalia of the Chapter aforesaid are in the possession of the petitioners:"

Now, therefore, the Charter of said Thomas Chapter having been returned to me, (with the evidence required,) I hereby endorse and transfer the same to the following Companions, being the petitioners above referred to, viz:

John D. Pratt, John H. Wheeler, Jacob W. Watson, Cyrus Winship, Joel Pratt, Reuben Blood, Stephen T. Farwell, Moses Thomas and Nahum Rice, and they and their successors, are hereby authorized and empowered to open and hold said Thomas Chapter in the town of Fitchburg, in the County of Worcester, and to enjoy and exercise all the powers and privileges guaranteed to Royal Arch Chapters in this Commonwealth.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, at Boston, this 13th day of November, A. D. 1847.

CHARLES W. MOORE,

Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mass.

Dec. 20, 1847. The following dispensation commences the records of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter in Fitchburg:

To the M. E. High Priest of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter:

At your request, and in order to enable you to organize your Chapter more efficiently, I hereby authorize you to dispense with so much of the regulations of Royal Arch Masonry and of your by-laws as may be necessary to enable you to exalt eight brethren to the degree of Royal Arch Masons at your convenience.

CHARLES W. MOORE,

H. P. Grand Chapter of Mass.

The first communication of Thomas Chapter was held in Fitchburg, December 21, 1847, for organization in Masonic Hall, in the upper story of Wood & Torrey block just west of our present hall.

The Chapter was temporarily organized by M. Ex. Comp. Charles W. Moore, Grand High Priest at 4 p. m.

M. E., C. W. Moore, High Priest; E., E. A. Raymond, King; E., David Wilder, Scribe; E., C. Winship, Treasurer; E., E. Gates, Secretary; E., J. B. Hammatt, R. A. C.

The following Companions were duly elected as officers of Thomas Chapter:

M. E., David Wilder, High Priest; E., John D. Pratt, King; E., Cyrus Winship, Scribe; Comp. John H. Wheeler, Treasurer; Comp. E. Gates, Secretary.

And they were duly installed into their respective offices and the Chapter declared duly organized for business. Brothers Jonas A. Marshall, Asher Green, Nathaniel S. Boutelle, Aaron F. Beaman,

Warren C. Upton and Kilburn Harwood were proposed for degrees, and ballot being taken they were duly elected, and ——— the Mark, Past, Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees were conferred on Brothers Marshall, Greene, Boutelle and Beaman.

January 4, 1848. A lodge of Mark Master Masons, with E., E. A. Raymond, R. W. M.; Charles W. Moore, S. W.; H. C. Haynes, J. W.; J. H. Wheeler, Treas.; David Wilder, Sec.; J. B. Hammatt, M. D.; J. Kilburn, E. O.; Asher Greene, J. O.

Warren C. Upton received Mark, Past, Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees.

It will be noticed that M. Ex. Companion Charles W. Moore, Grand High Priest, and other members of the Grand Chapter took a deep interest in starting off the work of the Chapter.

Feb. 16, 1848. The by-laws were adopted, being the same as formerly in force in Princeton and the remaining officers were installed: R. A. C., N. S. Boutelle; P. S., J. A. Marshall; M. 2d V., W. C. Upton; Sec., W. B. Towne; C. of H., Asher Greene; M. 3d V., J. L. Chandler; M. 1st V., A. F. Beaman; Steward, S. H. Goodnow.

May 17, 1848. The secretary was directed to publish notices of the meeting in the Fitchburg Weekly Sentinel, and for the Annual Meeting to forward a copy to each member.

November 9, 1848. John D. Pratt was elected High Priest, Asher Greene, King; Jonas A. Marshall, Scribe; J. H. Wheeler, Treasurer; W. B. Towne, Secretary, and the officers were installed by R. E. Charles W. Moore. From that time there began a period of inactivity for the Chapter work, as on Dec. 26, 1848, the records read: "Our Most Excellent High Priest and other officers being necessarily absent, and not being able to assemble enough to open a Chapter on Mark Degree, we who were present concluded to depart until our next regular meeting." For July, 1849, the record reads: "The day on which the meeting should have been holden, passed over, forgotten by every Companion until it was too late and consequently no meeting was held."

November 12, 1849. All the officers were re-elected with exception of S. H. Goodnow, elected secretary March 27, 1850. We read: "Not being able to install the officers and not having a sufficient



CLARENCE L. TROWBRIDGE

High Priest 1909
Treasurer from 1917



GEORGE W. BIGELOW

High Priest 1907



ERNEST L. WHITNEY

High Priest 1913



THOMAS H. CRANE

High Priest 1900-01

number to open on Mark degree, we simply state these facts and also that the last regular meeting was passed over by mistake, all thinking the time came one week later than it actually did." A case evidently of not being posted on the moon question.

April 24, 1850. The by-laws were amended, making fee for degrees, \$25; and it was Voted, that the secretary procure a suitable trunk in which to keep the papers of the Chapter.

Aug. 21, 1850. "There not being enough present to open a Mark Lodge, we lectured on the Mark degree, much to our edification and profit and then departed."

And for September 18, 1850, a somewhat similar record states: "There not being Companions present to open a Mark Lodge, we who were present lectured on the Mark degree in harmony and good will, with a fervant desire in our hearts that God would bless the fraternity throughout the world; we then dispersed."

November 20, 1850. Officers elected: Jonas A. Marshall, High Priest; Asher Greene, King; Aaron F. Beaman, Scribe; C. Carter, Treasurer; Silas H. Goodnow, Secretary; and in November, 1851, they were re-elected.

January 15, 1851, was presented the first petition in two years, and a renewed interest in the Chapter was noticed. It is to be remembered that the only Lodge in this vicinity was Aurora Lodge of this city, and from their membership the Chapter had to look for candidates. The same lack of interest had also brought very few additions to the Lodge.

December 3, 1852. William B. Towne was elected High Priest; N. S. Boutelle, King; Jonas A. Marshall, Scribe; S. H. Goodnow, Treasurer, and Kilburn Harwood, Secretary. It is very noticeable that for many years we find retiring members of the Council again taking up the work and filling the subordinate offices. Not always from choice on their part, but from the lack of those qualified and willing to do the work with the limited membership at that time. There has always been found a "faithful few" who never failed to respond to every call, and we have such with us today.

When the meeting's called to order
And you look around the room,
You're sure to see some faces
From out the shadows loom,
That are always at the meeting,
And stay till it is through.
Those you sure can count on—
The Always Faithful Few.

They fill the vacant offices,
And are always on the spot,
No matter what's the weather,
Though it may be awful hot;
It may be dark and rainy,
But they're the tried and true—
The ones that you rely on—
The Always Faithful Few.

There's a lot of worthy members
Who come when in the mood,
When everything's convenient,
Oh, they do a little good;
They're a factor in the Chapter,
And are necessary, too,
But the ones who never fail us are
The Always Faithful Few.

If it were not for these faithful ones
With a shoulder at the wheel,
To keep the Craft a-moving
Without a halt or reel,
What would be the fate of Chapters
That have so much to do,
They surely would go under
But for the Faithful Few?

To the untiring support of such Companions, Thomas Chapter owes its existence today as an active organization.

December, 1853. Asher Greene was chosen High Priest; Aaron F. Beaman, King; John D. Pratt, Scribe; Warren C. Upton, Treasurer, and Kilburn Harwood, Secretary; and December, 1854, they were re-elected with change of Treasurer only, S. H. Goodnow being elected.

June 24, 1855, the Chapter was invited to join the celebration at Milford, Mass., by Montgomery Lodge.

November 21, 1855. Jonas A. Marshall was again called to assume the duties of High Priest, with John D. Pratt as King; and Asher Greene as Scribe; S. H. Goodnow, Treasurer, and Kilburn Harwood, Secretary.

August 13, 1856. The Secretary was directed to secure a proper seal for the Chapter.

September 10, 1856. An invitation was received from the M. E. Grand Chapter to attend the ceremonies of the Inauguration of the Franklin Statue in front of the City Hall in Boston, on Sept. 17, 1856, to which the Chapter replied: "As most of the Companions would attend with Aurora Lodge the invitation could not be accepted."

October 26, 1856. Voted to obtain a new High Priest's Breast-Plate.

November 12, 1856. The only change in officers was by choice of Moses G. Lyon as Treasurer and George H. Sherwin as Secretary.

January 21, 1857. Voted to procure a new Keystone at an expense of \$2.50. An invitation was received for June 24, 1857, from Rising Sun Lodge of Keene, N. H.

June 3, 1857. Records read that "The Sublime and Honorable degree of Royal Arch Mason was conferred."

The reported membership of the nineteen Chapters in Massachusetts to the Grand Chapter, September, 1857, was:

Saint Andrew, Boston	138
Washington, Salem	72
Franklin, Greenfield	50
Mt. Zion, Stoughton	23
Worcester, Worcester	49
Mt. Lebanon, Milford	41
Concord, Framingham	36
St. John's, East Boston	66
Orient, Hyannis	37
King Cyrus, Newburyport	45
Adoniram, New Bedford	79
St. Paul's, Boston	149
Thomas, Fitchburg	22
Sutton, Sutton	30
Northampton, Northampton	42
Mt. Horeb, Lowell	89
Chapter of the Shekinah, Chelsea	35
Pentucket, Haverhill	16

1146

Contrast this with the 90 Chapters of today reporting over 35,000 membership.

February 24, 1858. Voted to pay Aurora Lodge \$25 per year for rent of hall, including fuel and lights.

April 21, 1858. Voted, That the Chapter pay the fare to and from Boston for the first three officers. Among the candidates admitted this year was E. Dana Bancroft, from whom our sister Chapter at Ayer takes its name. He was exalted on September 28, 1858, and was very closely associated with every one of the Masonic bodies of Fitchburg, and was also one of the active members of our fraternity in Massachusetts for nearly 50 years.

November 17, 1858. George Sherwin was elected High Priest; D. Waterman Tuttle, King; Thomas C. Caldwell, Scribe; Moses G.

Lyon, Treasurer, and Joseph A. Tufts, Secretary; Jonas A. Marshall again taking up the work as Captain of Host.

Excellent Companion Sherwin was one of the most enthusiastic members of our fraternity and devoted largely of his time and energy to its interests. He took up the matter of procuring for the Chapter a complete equipment for the Royal Arch degree and a full set of robes was secured for every officer in April, 1859. These we have today, although their use was discontinued about twenty-five years ago. The whole expense to the Chapter according to the records was \$151.76.

June 24, 1859. The Chapter accepted the invitation of the Grand Chapter, and joined with them in taking part in the celebration of St. John's Day at Framingham.

In 1859, Wilder Lodge was organized in Leominster, taking its name from Excellent Companion David Wilder, our first High Priest in Fitchburg.

November 25, 1859. George Sherwin was re-elected High Priest, with D. Waterman Tuttle, King; Arnold Wilson, Scribe; Moses G. Lyon, Treasurer, and John Burney, Secretary. In November, 1860, they were all re-elected.

April 24, 1861. Companion Thomas C. Upton was elected to membership, his demit being from (old) King Hiram Chapter, formerly of Greenwich.

November 12, 1861. D. Waterman Tuttle was elected High Priest; William J. Merriam, King; E. Dana Bancroft, Scribe; Arnold Wilson, Treasurer; John Burney, Secretary.

January 15, 1861. Thomas Chapter held its first meeting in the new Masonic Apartments which had been fitted up in the Sprague building (just west of where the Phoenix building is today), the Chapter's annual rent being fixed at \$50, including light and heat.

November 5, 1862. The officers were re-elected with C. L. S. Hammond for secretary.

January 28, 1863, is the first record of any payment to the Tyler for his services, when it was Voted, "That he be paid \$20 a year."

November 25, 1863. Charles S. Litch was elected High Priest; Henry T. Pratt, King; George Wheelock, Scribe; Arnold Wilson, Treasurer; Charles J. Delehanty, Secretary; and November 9, 1864, Charles S. Litch, High Priest; E. Dana Bancroft, King; John Burney, Scribe; Arnold Wilson, Treasurer; Charles J. Delehanty, Secretary.

In 1864, Hope Lodge of Gardner, and in 1865 Artisan Lodge of Winchendon and Charles W. Moore of Fitchburg were organized and resulted in an increased number of petitioners for the Capitular degrees, as also did the institution of Jerusalem Commandery of Fitchburg in 1865.

June 7, 1865. It was voted to purchase a Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organ at an expense of \$375, and the by-laws amended, making fee for degrees \$40.

November 21, 1865. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles S. Litch; King, Thomas C. Caldwell; Scribe, John Burney; Treasurer, Arnold Wilson; Secretary, Henry Allison, all of whom were re-elected in November, 1866.

Voted to pay Tyler \$40 per year; Secretary \$25; Treasurer \$10; and Jerusalem Commandery \$30 for use of banquet hall.

October 4, 1865. Voted to approve of request for a new Chapter in Athol.

December 27, 1865. Rent of hall increased to \$75 per year.

March 26, 1866. The use of "convocation" appears for first time in the records.

July 16, 1866. Thomas Chapter accepted the invitation to attend the institution of Union Chapter at Athol.

October 17, 1866. Through the courtesy of Companion Otis T. Ruggles the Companions of Thomas Chapter were furnished free transportation for a very enjoyable fraternal visit to the Chapter in Brattleboro, Vt.

November 6, 1867. The officers were re-elected, with George Wheelock, as Scribe. Commencing Nov. 8, 1868, date of regular convocation changed to second Wednesday of the month, with Annual in August; and Charles S. Litch re-elected High Priest; Henry C. Hill, King; Oran S. Rice, Scribe; Arnold Wilson, Treasurer; Henry Allison, Secretary.

April 14, 1869. Thomas Chapter gave their approval for the organization of a Chapter in Leominster.

The records of the Grand Chapter have the following:

In Grand Chapter, Boston, June 8, 1869.

A petition from a competent number of Royal Arch Masons of Leominster, and also a petition from Royal Arch Masons of Clinton, praying for leave to open and hold Chapters in their respective towns, were presented, and referred to M. E. Companions James Kimball, John McClellan, and Joseph B. Knox. This committee subsequently reported progress, and was granted further time, at their request.

In Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Sept. 7, 1869.

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions from Companions in the towns of Clinton and Leominster for Dispensations to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in each of these towns, have attended to the duties assigned them, and do now make their report, that, in the best judgment of your committee, there has been submitted to us sufficient evidence to satisfy us that we should report in favor of the granting of a Dispensation to the Companions at Clinton for opening a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and we therefore recommend that the Grand High Priest be authorized to issue such Dispensation, when the requirements of the Grand Chapter have been complied with.

Your committee would further recommend that the Companions at Leominster have leave to withdraw their petition.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

JAMES KIMBALL,
JOHN McCLELLAN,
J. B. KNOX.

In 1869, our present Tabernacle was constructed by the Companions of the Chapter at a cost of \$151.50. The three years 1866, 1867, 1868, were among the most active in the history of the Chapter up to that time.

August, 1869. Officers were re-elected with Joseph E. Manning as King; and date of Annual Convocation changed to September.

September, 1870. Joseph E. Manning elected High Priest; Oran S. Rice, King; John W. Kimball, Scribe; Arnold Wilson, Treasurer; Henry Allison, Secretary.

June 8, 1870. The Chapter voted to join with the other Masonic bodies of Fitchburg in leasing new apartments in building to be erected by the Fitchburg Savings Bank.

November 23, 1870. Companions J. E. Manning, W. J. Merriam and J. L. Chapman were appointed a committee with a like number from each of the other bodies, with full power to make all necessary arrangements for fitting up, heating, lighting, ventilating, supply with water and furnishings the new Masonic Apartments; to raise money for the same and to take a lease and pay for the same.

May 24, 1871. Voted, "That a Past High Priest's Jewel be presented to every living High Priest of Thomas Chapter and to all future High Priests," but this vote was not carried into effect until many years later.

At the Annual Convocation in 1871 the officers were re-elected with Moses G. Lyon as Treasurer.

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1871, Thomas Chapter held its first Convocation in our present Apartments, at which time George H. Spencer, John Q. Wright, and William Kimball, were elected trustees from the Chapter, as members of the Board of Masonic Trustees, an organization composed of three representatives each from Aurora and Charles W. Moore Lodges, Thomas Chapter, and Jerusalem Commandery, in whose hands was placed the care and management of the Masonic Apartments. These apartments were fitted up by the fraternity at an expense of about \$6500, each body assuming one-quarter of the cost. The Chapter by strict economy had accumulated a fund of about \$1500 and this with contributions from the Companions made up the Chapter's share and left nothing in the treasury. But the Companions of Thomas Chapter with the other bodies were very optimistic as to the future, assuming one-quarter of the largely increased rental and annual expense of about \$750 without any revenue except from petitions, no annual dues of any kind having been collected from the formation of the Chapter. Every branch of the fraternity was doing a good amount of work and the new apart-



Edward A. B. Lymere

High Priest 1919

ments proved very attractive. The membership of the Chapter was at this time 133. December 11, 1872, the by-laws were amended providing for annual dues of \$2.

In 1872, the state was divided into Capitular Districts. Fitchburg being placed in the Sixth District, the other Chapters being Houghton of Marlboro, Clinton of Clinton, Mt. Sinai of Lawrence, Mt. Horeb of Lowell.

February 14, 1872. Companion Joseph C. Moulton presented Thomas Chapter with a large photograph album with an offer to take the photograph of every Companion presenting himself for a sitting within the next three months, free from any expense. A large number responded, and we have preserved the familiar likenesses of many who have passed on.

August, 1872. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles S. Litch; King, John W. Kimball; Scribe, Elbridge G. Snow; Treasurer, Arnold Wilson; Secretary, David A. Corey.

North Star Chapter of Winchendon was organized in 1872 and placed in the Sixth District.

In 1873, Clinton Chapter was transferred to Fourth District and Waltham of Waltham, and Walden of Concord, added to the Sixth District.

April 30, 1873. Thomas Chapter was honored by a visit of M. E. Companion A. F. Chapman, Grand High Priest, with a full suite of Grand Officers.

August, 1873. Officers elected: High Priest, Elbridge G. Snow; King, Charles H. Hayward; Scribe, James H. Fairbanks; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Herbert O. Morse.

July 19, 1874. The following petition was presented: "We the undersigned Royal Arch Masons, having the good of Masonry at heart, and being desirous of forming a chapter in this town, respectfully request of your most excellent chapter, your permission to petition the Grand Chapter.

"Leominster, July 17, 1874. Joseph P. Lockey, G. F. Morse, John M. Lockey, C. A. Wheeler, J. G. Tenney, O. J. Putnam, D. I.

Harthan, A. E. Lyon, H. W. Pitts, Solon Perry, B. M. Walker, A. L. Burdett, T. A. Earl, J. A. Kendall, C. H. Merriam, J. J. Eaton."

December 1, 1875. It was unanimously "Voted, That Thomas Chapter recommend the Grand Chapter to grant the petition of Leominster Companions petitioning to form a Chapter in that place, and would endorse the names of so many of the petitioners who are members of Thomas Chapter as being Royal Arch Masons in good and regular standing and of good character."

The Grand Chapter records have this report on this matter:

In Grand Chapter, Dec. 30, 1874.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Joseph P. Lockey and thirteen others, for a Dispensation to open a Royal Arch Chapter in the town of Leominster, have attended to their duty, and after hearing the parties interested feel that it is not expedient for this Grand Chapter to create a Chapter in so close proximity to the two which are located at Fitchburg and Clinton respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE E. STACY,
ALEX. K. BRYER,
WILLIAM P. SANDERS.

Which report was accepted and adopted.

November 6, 1874. The following elected officers were publicly installed by Grand High Priest Alfred F. Chapman with members of the Grand Chapter: High Priest, Elbridge G. Snow; King, Charles H. Hayward; Scribe, Samuel J. Thompson; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Herbert O. Morse; and they were all re-elected in 1875.

October 8, 1875. By-Laws amended and fee for degrees made \$25.

September 13, 1876. Companion Ivers Phillips, a member of Thomas Chapter from 1848, was present and announced it was the fiftieth anniversary of the commencement of his Masonic activities; he then received congratulations of the Companions present.

August, 1876. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles H. Hayward; King, Samuel J. Thompson; Scribe, Otis E. Alley; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Thomas C. Sheldon.

August, 1877. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles H. Hayward; King, George S. Richardson; Scribe, Wilbur B. Tenney; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Thomas C. Sheldon.

August 14, 1878. By-laws amended, adding life membership fee, \$20; and providing for honorary membership.

September 15, 1878. Officers re-elected; and as suggested by Grand Secretary, a liberal donation was forwarded for the benefit of the sufferers of yellow fever in the Southwest, by contributions from the Companions.

In September, 1879, with the other Masonic bodies of Fitchburg, Thomas Chapter joined in holding a Masonic Fair in the City Hall, upon the completion of addition to the building and a considerable sum was realized for the funds of the fraternity.

September, 1879. Officers elected: High Priest, George S. Richardson; King, Wilbur B. Tenney; Scribe, John P. Holbrook; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Thomas C. Sheldon; and all of these officers were re-elected in 1880, 1881, 1882.

The District Deputy Grand High Priest reported for November 9, 1880: "I visited Thomas Chapter of Fitchburg and was highly delighted with their work. They worked the M. M. degree. The Chapter has wonderfully improved within the last few years in the manner of their work and they have a good membership. I found but very few mistakes or flaws in the work, where I could suggest any improvement. They have had a considerable amount of work to do for the past year, and I trust that as good fortune awaits them in the future, and the best of it is, that they deserve success."

For the year 1882, the D. D. Grand High Priest reported Nov. 14: "Visited Thomas R. A. Chapter; witnessed the work of R. A. degree. Each officer took an interest in his part of the work and the correct manner of rendering deserves especial mention. Thomas Chapter has more Marks recorded than any Chapter in the District, and the tasty manner in which they are placed in the book is a credit to the Chapter. Although they have had very little work during the year, yet what they have had is good work."

Commencing with the financial depression of 1874-75, for nearly ten years, the Chapter struggled along under great financial strain and suffered from a considerable number of withdrawals on account of the times and heavy expenses they were called to meet, but through the generous contributions of some of the Companions it was finally able to announce in August, 1883, that the balance of the debt had been paid and since that time the Chapter has steadily increased its financial resources.

August, 1883. Officers elected: High Priest, Wilbur B. Tenney; King, Elbridge G. Snow; Scribe, E. James Sawtelle; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Thomas C. Sheldon.

May 26, 1884. The records read: "Voted, That the thanks of the Chapter be extended to Ex. Comp. W. B. Tenney for the very acceptable gift of a box of Palm Leaf fans. Thermometer registered 98 degrees in the shade."

September, 1884. Officers elected: High Priest, Wilbur B. Tenney; King, Elbridge G. Snow; Scribe, Charles A. Goodrich; Treasurer, John Burney; Secretary, Prescott C. Rice.

September, 1885. Officers re-elected with William C. Wing as Secretary.

September, 1886. Officers elected: High Priest, Elbridge G. Snow; King, Charles H. Hayward; Scribe, Seth E. Brigham; Treasurer, George E. Clifford; Secretary, William C. Wing.

September, 1887. Officers all re-elected.

September, 1888. Officers elected: High Priest, Elbridge G. Snow; King, Seth E. Brigham; Scribe, Fred H. Rideout; Treasurer, George E. Clifford; Secretary, William C. Wing.

September, 1889. Officers elected: High Priest, Fred H. Rideout; King, Thomas Kelty; Scribe, Elbridge G. Snow; Treasurer, Norman Stone; Secretary, Albert L. Pratt.

September, 1890. Officers re-elected with William H. Cropper as Scribe.

September, 1891. Officers elected: High Priest, Thomas Kelty; King, Charles S. Alexander; Scribe, William H. Cropper; Treasurer, Norman B. Stone; Secretary, Alfred R. Chilton.

October, 1891. New robes, regalia and banners, purchased at expense of \$300.

September, 1892. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles S. Alexander; King, Charles H. Proctor; Scribe, Carroll Z. Parker; Treasurer, Norman Stone; Secretary, Alfred R. Chilton.

September, 1893. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles S. Alexander; King, Charles H. Proctor; Scribe, Carroll Z. Parker; Treasurer, Norman Stone; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

In 1893 the increase in number of Chapters compelled a new arrangement of Capitular Districts by which Thomas Chapter was placed in the Eleventh District, with Union of Athol, Crescent of Orange, North Star of Winchendon and Clinton of Clinton.

In 1893, Thomas Chapter petitioned the Grand Chapter for leave to work the Past degree in Masonic hall, Leominster. It happened that a number of other Chapters were asking for similar permits which resulted according to the Grand Chapter record of March 7, 1893, as follows:

Report of Committee on Petitions of Several Chapters for Leave to Work
in Places Not Named in Their Charters

R. E. Solomon A. Bolster, chairman, presented the following report:

In Grand Chapter, Boston, March 7, 1893.

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of Menotomy R. A. Chapter, of Arlington, to work one or more Degrees at Lexington; of Reading R. A. Chapter, of Reading, to confer such portion of the Capitular Degree as may be deemed advisable by the Council at the hall of Golden Rule Lodge in Wakefield; of Walden R. A. Chapter, of Concord, to confer the Mark, Past and Most Excellent Degrees in the Masonic apartments at Maynard; and of Thomas R. A. Chapter, of Fitchburg, to confer the Past Degrees at Masonic Hall, Leominster,—respectfully submit the following report:

We have heard the representatives of the Chapters interested in the several petitions, who have in each case presented the facts favorable to the request. We are obliged, however, to report, that the reasons submitted do not seem to us sufficient to justify this Grand Chapter in grant-

ing the petitions. The authorization proposed is in the nature of an amendment to the Charter, perpetual in its duration, and in our opinion ought to be granted only upon very strong and urgent grounds, certainly not for the serving of a merely temporary purpose; some other means should be found to remove a temporary inconvenience or meet a passing necessity. We recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Fraternally submitted,

S. A. BOLSTER,
J. GILMAN WAITE,
F. E. BARKER.

The report of the committee was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

February 13, 1893. Thomas Chapter held its first social evening, "Complimentary to the ladies; with a musical programme and banquet," a most enjoyable occasion.

September, 1894. Officers elected: Charles H. Proctor, High Priest; Edward D. Moody, King; Cyrus A. Foster, Scribe; George S. Richardson, Treasurer; J. Frank Fisher, Secretary.

March 4, 1894. Another very enjoyable Ladies' Night was held by Thomas Chapter.

September, 1895. Officers elected: High Priest, Edward D. Moody; King, Cyrus A. Foster; Scribe, Fred S. Huntley; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

September, 1896. High Priest, Edward D. Moody; King, Cyrus A. Foster; Scribe, Edward Sharrocks; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

Sunday, June 6, 1897. The Companions of Thomas Chapter attended Divine Service at the Methodist Church on the invitation of Rev. Companion N. T. Whitaker.

September, 1897. The officers were re-elected, with Nathan E. Metcalf as Scribe.

March 18, 1898. A fraternal visit was paid to Houghton Royal Arch Chapter of Marlboro by the Companions of Thomas Chapter.

September, 1898. Officers elected: High Priest, Cyrus A. Foster; King, Nathan E. Metcalf; Scribe, George H. Priest; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

February 8, 1899. Past High Priest's Jewels were presented to seven Past High Priests of Thomas Chapter: Charles H. Hayward, George S. Richardson, Wilbur B. Tenney, Fred H. Rideout, Charles H. Proctor, Edward D. Moody, and Cyrus A. Foster. The presentation being made in behalf of the Chapter by Companion Joseph G. Edgerly in a very impressive manner.

September, 1899. Officers elected: High Priest, Nathan E. Metcalf; King, Thomas H. Crane; Scribe, H. Nelson Lawrence; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

September 11, 1900. A new Chapter organized by Companions in Ayer, and named Bancroft Chapter in honor of Companion E. Dana Bancroft, who was exalted in Thomas Chapter and served as Scribe in 1861 and King in 1864 and 1865. Bancroft Chapter was added to Eleventh District.

September, 1900. Officers elected: High Priest, Thomas H. Crane; King, H. Nelson Lawrence; Scribe, George H. Priest; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

The Eleventh Capitular District in 1901 included Fitchburg, Athol, Clinton, Winchendon, Orange and Ayer.

April 13, 1901. By-laws amended: Providing that payment of annual dues for twenty-five consecutive years would entitle election to Honorary Life Membership.

September, 1901. Officers elected: High Priest, Thomas H. Crane; King, George H. Priest; Scribe, Fred A. Tolman; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

Ex. Comp. Frank H. Parker of Winchendon was D. D. G. H. P. of Eleventh Capitular District.

September, 1902. Officers elected: High Priest, George H. Priest; King, Fred A. Tolman; Scribe, Harry F. Allen; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

September, 1903. All the officers were re-elected. Ex. Comp. Edward D. Moody was D. D. G. H. P. of the eleventh Capitular District.

September, 1904. Officers elected: High Priest, William A. Pearce; King, Harry F. Allen; Scribe, Charles J. Russell; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

Through the incentive of Ex. Comp. Pearce, extensive additions were made to the property of the Chapter and great advance made in the completeness of the presentation of the degrees, and from that time dates a very marked increase in the growth and prosperity of the Chapter.

September, 1905. The officers were all re-elected.

May 9, 1906. Thomas Chapter contributed \$200 for the earthquake sufferers in California, through the Board of Masonic Relief of Oakland, California.

Ex. Comp. William Hamilton of Clinton, D. D. G. H. P. of the Eleventh Capitular District.

September, 1906. Officers elected: High Priest, Harry F. Allen; King, Charles J. Russell; Scribe, George W. Bigelow; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

Ex. Comp. Dexter L. Crandall of Orange was D. D. G. H. P. of the Eleventh Capitular District.

September, 1907. Officers elected: High Priest, George W. Bigelow; King, Charles W. Godfrey; Scribe, Clarence L. Trowbridge; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, J. Frank Fisher.

September, 1908. Officers elected: High Priest, Charles W. Godfrey; King, Clarence L. Trowbridge; Scribe, Fred A. Watson; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

February 10, 1909. Amendment to by-laws. Dues of \$4 made semi-annual and permanent fund established, for all Life Memberships and one-tenth of fees received for degrees.

May 19, 1909. A social evening for the Companions was held by the Chapter, with entertainment.

September, 1909. Officers elected: High Priest, Clarence L. Trowbridge; King, Fred A. Watson; Scribe, Archie E. Perkins; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.



WILLIAM A. ROBBINS
High Priest 1914



JOHN G. FAXON
High Priest 1912



G. BURTON LORD
High Priest 1917



WILBUR W. HENRY
High Priest 1915

December, 1909. Excellent Companion Charles W. Godfrey appointed D. D. Grand High Priest for Eleventh Capitular District.

May 18, 1910. Right Excellent Charles D. Burrage, Grand High Priest, made a fraternal visit complimentary to Ex. Companion Charles W. Godfrey, D. D. G. H. P.

May, 1910. The Chapter was presented with the beautiful Silk Royal Arch Apron and Sash, formerly worn by Companion Moses G. Lyon, for many years a member of Thomas Chapter, which he served many years as treasurer. It was the usual custom for members of the fraternity, both in the Lodge and Chapter, formerly to have their own regalia and many beautiful specimens are treasured today. We call to mind the beautiful apron presented by Madame Lafayette to General Washington.

The sash of the Master Mason was blue, and of the Royal Arch, scarlet, and we have preserved those worn by our members in days that are gone.

September, 1910. Officers elected: High Priest, Fred A. Watson; King, Archie E. Perkins; Scribe, John G. Faxon; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

November 30, 1910. A large number of Companions of Thomas Chapter accepted the invitation, and were present at the institution of Gardner Royal Arch Chapter in Gardner.

The evening of March 8, 1911, was a notable event in the Chapter history. One hundred and fifty Companions being present, including representatives from many of the other Chapters of the District.

September, 1911. Officers elected: High Priest, Archie E. Perkins; King, John G. Faxon; Scribe, Ernest L. Whitney; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

Ex. Comp. Edward O. Burton of Clinton, D. D. G. H. P. of the Eleventh Capitular District.

September, 1912. Officers elected: High Priest, John G. Faxon; King, Ernest L. Whitney; Scribe, William A. Robbins; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

June 11, 1912. The Grand Chapter fixed "the limits of jurisdiction both exclusive and inclusive" of the several Chapters of the State and Thomas Chapter was given "Exclusive jurisdiction over Fitchburg, Leominster, Lunenburg, Ashby and Princeton. Concurrent with Gardner, for Westminster, and with Bancroft for Townsend.

September, 1913. Officers elected: High Priest, Ernest L. Whitney; King, William A. Robbins; Scribe, Wilbur W. Henry; Treasurer, George S. Richardson; Secretary, Frederick A. Currier.

September, 1913. Thomas Chapter was honored in election of Ex. Companion Charles W. Godfrey as Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter.

May 13, 1914, was High Priest Night for Thomas Chapter, when 11 Past High Priests of Thomas Chapter filled the chairs for the work of the Royal Arch Degree.

Ex. Comp. George S. Richardson as High Priest.

Ex. Comp. George H. Priest, as King.

Ex. Comp. Charles S. Alexander as Scribe.

Ex. Comp. Fred H. Rideout as Chaplain.

Ex. Comp. Charles H. Hayward as Treasurer.

Ex. Comp. George W. Bigelow as Secretary.

Ex. Comp. William A. Pearce as Royal Arch Captain.

Ex. Comp. John G. Faxon as C. of Host.

Ex. Comp. Charles W. Godfrey as P. S.

Ex. Comp. Archie E. Perkins as M. of 3d V.

Ex. Comp. Fred A. Watson as M. of 2d V.

Companion John P. Holbrook as M. of 1st V.

Every living Past High Priest of Thomas Chapter, except four then living at a distance from Fitchburg, were present.

September, 1914. Officers elected: William A. Robbins, High Priest; Wilbur W. Henry, King; Fred A. Young, Scribe; George S. Richardson, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

September, 1915. Officers elected: Wilbur W. Henry, High Priest; Fred A. Young, King; G. Burton Lord, Scribe; George S. Richardson, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

Ex. Comp. Albert A. Fillebrown of Ayer, D. D. G. H. P. for the Eleventh District.

September, 1916. Officers elected: Fred A. Young, High Priest; G. Burton Lord, King; Forrest A. Bliss, Scribe; Ex. Comp. George S. Richardson, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

Ex. Comp. Eaton D. Sargent of Winchendon, D. D. G. H. P. of the Eleventh District.

October 11, 1916. The Chapter was honored with a visit from Most Excellent Arthur D. Prince, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

December 13, 1916. The Companions of Thomas Chapter enjoyed a smoke talk, with a very interesting illustrated lecture by Rev. Brother S. H. Dunham.

At the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, in December, 1916, Thomas Chapter was honored by the appointment of Ex. Companion Wilbur W. Henry as Grand Master of the 2d Veil.

September, 1917. Officers elected: G. Burton Lord, High Priest; Forrest A. Bliss, King; Edward A. A. Lamere, Scribe; George S. Richardson, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

The location of Camp Devens at Ayer, so near to our city, brought the activities of the World War very closely to the daily life of all our Companions. And many of the men from the camp were seen at our meetings.

On March 13, 1918, a "Camp Devens Night" brought an attendance of about fifty Companions from the camp and also a goodly number from Bancroft Chapter of Ayer.

The Honor Roll of Thomas Chapter contained names of:

Charles W. Godfrey, Henry H. Wheelock, Leroy Barrett, Alfred Woolacott, Richard S. Tucker, Edward B. Tourtellotte, Joseph H. Davison, J. Edward Cheney, George W. Hyatt, Celtic Nicholson, Jr., Russell J. Hardy, Herbert W. Kittredge, Henry M. Brown, Paul F. Gressnich.

At every Convocation commencing in 1918 the Service Flag of Thomas Chapter was displayed at the head of the Chapter until after the armistice.

It was voted that all Companions of Thomas Chapter in the military and naval service of the United States be furnished with a traveling card and be exempt from all dues during service in the present war.

December, 1917. Ex. Companion Fred A. Young was appointed District Deputy Grand High Priest for the Eleventh Capitalar District.

September, 1918. Officers elected: Forrest A. Bliss, High Priest; Edward A. A. Lamere, King; Joseph H. Kibling, Scribe; Clarence L. Trowbridge, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

At the close of each Regular Convocation during the winter months members' socials proved of great enjoyment.

April 2, 1919. A meeting of unusual interest was held with the following Past High Priests of Thomas Chapter conferring the Royal Arch Degree.

Ex. Comp. Fred H. Rideout as H. P.

Ex. Comp. George H. Priest as King.

Ex. Comp. Clarence L. Trowbridge as Scribe.

Ex. Comp. John G. Faxon as C. of H.

Ex. Comp. G. Burton Lord as Chaplain.

Ex. Comp. Archie E. Perkins as P. S.

Ex. Comp. William A. Robbins as R. A. C.

Ex. Comp. Wilbur W. Henry as M. of 3d V.

Ex. Comp. Fred A. Young as M. of 2d V.

Ex. Comp. Fred A. Watson as M. of 1st V.

September, 1919. Officers elected: Edward A. A. Lamere, H. P.; James C. Eteson, King; Richard S. Tucker, Scribe; Clarence L. Trowbridge, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

February 4, 1920. The Companions of Thomas Chapter were given a rare treat in witnessing the work of the Most Excellent Degree by Excellent Companion Raymond T. Sewell of Winthrop, Senior Grand Lecturer.

March 3, 1920. A delightful social evening was enjoyed by the Companions and Ladies, with a fine entertainment, music, card party, and banquet. The custom of holding Members' Socials at the close of Regular Convocations was continued with great success.

September, 1920. Officers elected: James C. Eteson, High Priest; Richard S. Tucker, King; John F. Widlund, Scribe; Clarence L. Trowbridge, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary.

Social gathering after each Regular Convocation added to the pleasure of the Companions.

This proved to be the banner year for Petitions for Thomas Chapter, 57 being accepted, the largest number of any year of its history.

September, 1921. Officers elected: Richard S. Tucker, High Priest; John F. Widlund, King; Leon C. Barnes, Scribe; Clarence L. Trowbridge, Treasurer; Frederick A. Currier, Secretary. By-laws amended, making fee for degrees \$50. Annual dues \$5. Life Membership \$75.

During years the Chapter was located in Princeton, 40 candidates received the Royal Arch Degree, and since its removal to Fitchburg 854 have been exalted.

For twenty years from 1828 to 1848 not a candidate was received. Since that time no year has been passed without one or more petitions, except 1878. The banner years having been 1867 and 1873, with 23 each, 1905 with 28, 1918 with 27, 1919 with 40 and 1920 with 57.

Of the forty-four High Priests of the Chapter twenty are now living. John G. Davis, Alex Dustin, John D. Pratt, Asher Green, Fred H. Rideout, Joseph E. Manning, Charles S. Alexander, Thomas H. Crane, George H. Priest, William A. Pearce, served two years; Charles Russell, Charles H. Hayward, George Sherwin, Wilbur B. Tenney, and Edward D. Moody, three years; Rev. Samuel Clarke and George S. Richardson, four years; Jonas A. Marshall, five years; Elbridge G. Snow, six years; and Charles S. Litch, eight years.

Ex. Comp. David Wilder, William B. Towne, Thomas Kelty, Charles H. Proctor, Cyrus A. Foster, Harry F. Allen, Charles W. Godfrey, Clarence L. Trowbridge, Fred A. Watson, Archie E. Perkins, John G. Faxon, Ernest L. Whitney, William A. Robbins, Wilbur W. Henry, Fred A. Young, G. Burton Lord, Forrest A. Bliss, Edward A. A. Lamere, James C. Eteson, Richard S. Tucker, one year each.

After his service as High Priest, Ex. Companion Jonas A. Marshall was Captain of the Host twelve years and Principal Sojourner five years and Ex. Companion George S. Richardson was Treasurer for twenty-three years until his death, when Ex. Companion Clarence L. Trowbridge was elected Treasurer and up to the present time has served four years; Arnold Wilson was Treasurer twelve years; John Burney, thirteen years, and Norman Stone five years.

Henry Allison, six years as secretary; Thomas C. Sheldon, eight years; J. Frank Fisher, fourteen years; Frederick A. Currier, fifteen years to date, and trustee for thirty years.

Joseph M. Peirce has been Tyler for thirty-two years.

Thomas Chapter has been honored by the appointment as District Deputy Grand High Priest of Grand Chapter:

Ex. Comp. Edward D. Moody in 1904.

Ex. Comp. Charles W. Godfrey, 1910.

Ex. Comp. Fred A. Young, 1918.

And by appointment of:

Ex. Comp. Asher Greene, Grand Master of 3d Veil, 1856.

Ex. Comp. George Sherwin, Grand Master of 3d Veil, 1859.

Ex. Comp. Wilbur W. Henry, Grand Master of 2d Veil, 1916.

Election as Grand Scribe of Grand Chapter:

R. Ex. Comp. Jonas A. Marshall, 1852.

R. Ex. Comp. George Sherwin, 1860.

R. Ex. Comp. Charles W. Godfrey, 1913.

Election as Grand King: R. Ex. Comp. Elbridge G. Snow, 1876.

Election as Grand High Priest: Most Ex. Comp. Rev. Samuel Clarke, 1829-31.

Commencing with fourteen members at its first regular meeting, its membership never exceeded thirty-five while located in Princeton. Starting with twelve at its removal to Fitchburg it grew slowly for many years, in 1859 having only thirty-two on its rolls, although thirty-six had been exalted. For many years it required an election to membership after receiving the degrees, and many appear not to have applied for membership.

Commencing in 1860, for the next nine years, a period of prosperity brought up the number on membership roll to 113. From that time various circumstances combined to keep down the gain. So that

in 1887, only 121 names were reported. From that time there has been a continual, steady growth. The last three years have added 124. And the present membership is 418.

The Chapter having weathered its years of financial difficulties, today stands free from debt with a substantial sum in its treasury, a rapidly increasing permanent fund and a loyal supporting membership. The books of Marks are an interesting study, revealing personality, characteristics and individuality of Companions represented therein. There was not much attention apparently taken to require the recording of the Mark until within the last fifty years. We have no record previous to 1860. But the books have 626 duly recorded since that time.

We have today not only the original record books, and by-laws, but also the first three petitions to receive the degrees in Thomas Chapter at Princeton. A copy of the letter in the handwriting of Rev. Samuel Clarke to R. E. Companion Isaiah Thomas and also the autograph letter of R. E. Companion Thomas in reply. The original petition to King Hiram Chapter for release of jurisdiction; the original bills for the paraphernalia of the Chapter at its organization; also the refreshment bills and other interesting documents which have been referred to in this history, with what is supposed to be part of the original regalia of the Chapter.

The years in their passing have brought many changes. Today we see the vacant chairs of those we loved and honored and who have passed beyond the veil of the last great mystery, into the gardens of immortality, leaving treasured memories of kindly deeds, honorable lives and faithful service. One Companion of years gone by was an example of noble benevolence, another radiated the sunshine of a genial nature, a third brought comfort to the minds of those in great sorrow—all of them have contributed a permanent influence to the fraternity. Long after such Companions have passed to their reward, their influence lives in other lives, and though they rest from their labors, their works do follow them. As the ranks close up and new faces take the places of the absent, let us tenderly remember the noble traits of character which perhaps we failed to fully appreciate at their worth while living and strive to emulate them in deeds of love and charity. Some day for each of us the record will also be finished, yet while we stay, let it be with brave hearts and earnest

labor, each in his own particular quarry, as the Great Master will approve. I sometimes fear, as I look back over the past, and recall the silvered heads of those who stood about the altar of this Chapter, when I first was admitted to our fraternity, and think of the love and veneration they manifested for its history and symbolism, and earnestness with which they regarded everything connected with our institution, that the popularity and prosperity enjoyed today has a tendency to lessen the appreciation and understanding of our institution from what it represented to those earnest souls of bygone days, who were so ready to give of the best that was in them for its prosperity. It was never a question with them, "how much do I get out of it," but their joy was to see how much they could do for it.

The amount of the funds of the Chapter has never been large, but it has never failed to promptly and generously respond to every call upon its members for sympathy or assistance coming to its knowledge, and there are many deeds of charity, fraternity and self-sacrifice belonging to the Chapter's unwritten history.

As we look over the list of those who have been members of Thomas Chapter, we find many names of those who have been prominent in the business and professional life of this community, and others who have served the towns and cities of its jurisdiction, as well as the state and nation, in public office with distinction; who have for a time turned aside from the busy activities of their daily life to give to the Chapter the benefit of thought, time and service in promotion of its prosperity and work.

The Companions of Thomas Chapter should at this time respect and honor the memory—First, of that little band of the sturdy founders of our Chapter, who did their work in the day of small things, and laid well the foundation stones; Second, those faithful companions who through long years of discouragement and days of darkness never wavered, but kept the faith, and with courage took up again the work and made possible this Centennial; Third, the Companions who, as High Priest, have given so liberally of their time, thought and service to the building up of the Chapter of today. Very few of the Companions have any appreciation of the extent of their loyalty and devotion to the best interests of the Chapter and the amount of self-sacrifice it has often required from them, and we must not forget the faithful supporters and helpers in the subordinate offices.



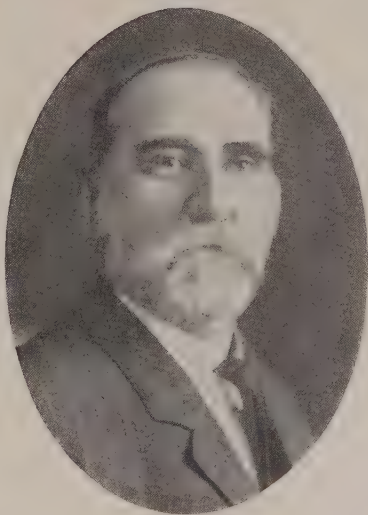
JAMES C. ETESON
High Priest 1920



JOHN F. WIDLUND
High Priest 1922



LEON C. BARNES
King 1922



JOSEPH M. PEIRCE
Tyler Thirty-three Years

Friendly and cordial relations with all the Chapters of the District have been evidenced in the many exchanges of fraternal courtesies and visits on numerous occasions.

We are most of us socially inclined, and there is a world of good in these days of nervous, modern life, in the coming together in the company of fraternal Companions and when the call comes from labor to refreshment, how many good times and pleasant memories are called to mind. Of late years more and more have been realized by the presiding officers the importance of developing the social life of the Chapter and making the Chapter so attractive that as the evening of the meeting draws near the Companions will all realize that no more agreeable place can be found to pass the evening than within its pleasant walls. From the resulting better acquaintances and friendly intimacy between its members is largely due the present popularity and prosperity of the Chapter.

At times it is to be feared that the work of the Chapter is not fully understood and appreciated. The Lodge is the source of all Masonic light, and it is the trunk which supports and gives life to the different branches of the Masonic system, and while we acknowledge its supremacy with loyal hearts, we must not forget that the Chapter has an individuality of its own, a place to fill, a lesson to teach, and a mission to accomplish. In its clearness, simplicity and magnificence of ceremonies and insistent teaching of right living, the Chapter appeals with compelling power to the souls and hearts of men, and in richness of ritual, Masonic significance and historical importance, the Capitular degrees rank second to none but those of the Lodge.

Freemasonry has been defined as "a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, that are used to imprint on the mind wise and serious truths."

Our ancient brethren studied symbolism in everything, even to their dress and personal decorations. The hem of their robes was a beautiful and instructive exposition of the ground principles of ethical science. The costume of the Jewish High Priest was itself a homily and the veil and brooch of the Jewish maiden were something more than mere adornments of her person.

Our ancient brethren studied nature through her intelligible forms and imitated her in their productions. Their walls were hung with

emblems; their tapestry was interwoven with thought. Everything on which the eye could rest, whether architecture, furniture or apparel, was made with a rational art to express some fine conception. Even their manners and customs partook of the emblematic character. Their pageants and ceremonies were intended for more than empty form and a spirit pervaded them that made them significant.

With this in mind our ceremonies and traditions will be better understood when Masonry of today speaks to her votaries in significant forms, in impressive ritual and pleasing pantomimes; with mute lips she explains imperishable truths by perishable things, the moral by the natural. A rude stone fitted from the quarry, a handful of earth from the field, a piece of metal or coal from the mine, a sheaf of wheat at harvest-time, the sun in the beauty of his rising, in the splendor of his noon and in the softer glory of his setting, the natural objects around us, the clouds and stars above us, the implements of art, the diagrams of science, and the incidents of history and romances, all these are her words, with them she forms discourse and her language is universal. The distinguishing characteristics of the Lodge are its symbolic instruction and the lessons taught thereby, which give light and proclaim the truths that make Freemasonry a real force in shaping human character.

In the Chapter, in addition to its symbolic features, there is more of legendary and historical instruction as to the meaning of much that is brought to mind in the symbolic degrees of the Lodge.

The Capitular degrees are almost altogether related to a series of events in Masonic history, each with some tradition or legend which it is the design of the degree to illustrate, and most of these legends are of symbolic significance.

The Mark degree is the completion of the Fellow Crafts degree, and its lessons are intensely practical, emphasizing the great requirements of life, qualification and service—teaching that we should discharge all the duties of our several stations with precision and punctuality; that the work of our hands and thoughts of our hearts should be good and true, not unfinished and imperfect, but such as the Great Overseer and Judge of heaven and earth will see fit to approve as a worthy oblation from his creatures.

Remembering the words of Longfellow:

In the elder day of art
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part:
For the Gods see everywhere.
Let us do our work as well,
Both the seen and the unseen;
Make the house, where God may dwell,
Beautiful, entire and clean.

How impressively are we reminded in this degree that though our motives may sometimes be misinterpreted by our erring fellow mortals, our attainments be underrated and our reputation be traduced by the envious and malicious, there is one, at least, who sees not with the eyes of man, but who may yet make that stone which the builders rejected the head of the corner. As we labor in the quarries to form and polish the ashlers of our characters, to fit them for the Temple walls, does not the symbolism of the Mark degree impress upon our minds the truth that,

To each man is given a marble to carve for the work,
A stone that is needed to heighten the beauty of all.
And only his soul has the magic to give it a grace,
And only his hands the cunning to put in place.

As in ancient times, workmen stamped their private Mark on their productions so that each piece and part might easily be distinguished, so today, by the character of our work and activities as Masons, we stamp our Mark upon our character and individuality, just as plainly as did the operative Mason of ancient times and our worth and value is fixed just in proportion to the character of service we render.

From days before the commencement of recorded history, temple building was among the most important works carried on by mankind. In the ruins of buried and forgotten cities, covered by the rubbish of thousands of years, explorers are finding on every hand remnants of once mighty temples erected by people whose very existence has been forgotten. We may well believe that with the creation of man there was implanted within him this instinct which has led him in all ages of the world's history to the building of temples for all purposes, but especially to the worship of the Gods. The mighty ruins of temples built and dedicated to the Egyptian Gods

which are found all over that land—Nineveh, Babylon, and a host of ancient cities—contain the most magnificent specimens of architecture in temples, reared by the hands of their cunning workmen, and whose ruins today excite the admiration of the world. The construction and completion of the Temple of Solomon form the groundwork and foundation stone of traditional Freemasonry. And the ceremonies of the Most Excellent degree commemorate the completion and dedication of this first temple and when the degree is given with the rich setting and solemnity it deserves it becomes truly a sublime ritual of preparation for the Royal Arch degree.

Where can be found a more impressive and sublime spiritual ritual than the invocation in which Israel's King asks the blessing of the Almighty upon his chosen people and the superb creation of their hands. Nearly everybody has a vague, indefinable idea of what this "Grand and Gorgeous" edifice was, and certain critical writers have recently disputed the glowing accounts of the building of this famous edifice as recorded by Josephus and other writers of antiquity. But it is certain that recent explorations have verified, in numerous details, the descriptions given us in Hebrew literature as to the very foundations of the building, and if this is true, why not the balance? That three thousand years ago there was erected the most famous building in the world's history. Of no temple ever built has there been so much written and sung. And to Masons who hear so much regarding this building its history is of intense interest.

This building planned by King David was left to the Wise King Solomon to execute and perfect in design, and erect. King David had accumulated an immense treasure for the purpose and the wealth of the world flowed into the coffers of the Great King and by him was freely expended in the great undertaking. The forests, the quarries, the mines of the then known world contributed of their wealth and the most skilled and cunning workmen of the neighboring kingdoms were employed in giving to this temple its wondrous beauty and symmetry.

In gorgeous magnificence it surpassed any building the world had ever seen and it became the wonder and admiration of the surrounding nations. In her far off southern home, the Queen of Sheba heard of its fame and the wisdom of the great king who built it, and she came to inspect that of which such wondrous stories had been told, and the scripture tells us that "when she had seen Solomon's

wisdom and house he built, there was no spirit in her." Tradition informs us that when she first beheld this magnificent edifice, which glittered with gold, and seemed from the nice adjustment and exact accuracy of all its joints, to be composed of a single piece of marble, she raised her eyes and hands in an attitude of admiration and exclaimed "Rabboni," signifying "A Most Excellent Master has done this."

Of all the objects which constitute the Masonic Science of Symbolism, the most important, most cherished by Masons, and by far the most significant, is the Temple of Jerusalem. The Masonic Craft looking to the first Temple erected by the wisdom of King Solomon, make it the symbol of life, and as the great object of Masonry is the search after truth, they are directed to build up their temple as a fitting receptacle for truth when found, a place where it may dwell just as the ancient Jews built up their great temple as a dwelling place for Him, who is the author of truth.

The Masons of the Royal Arch looking beyond the Temple of Solomon, find in scriptural history another Temple, which years after the destruction of the first one was erected upon its ruins, and they have selected the second Temple, the Temple of Zerubbabel, as their prominent symbol.

To the Master Mason, the Temple of Solomon is the symbol of the search for truth, to the Royal Arch Mason the Temple of Zerubbabel is the symbol of the discovery of truth and thus the circle is completed and the system made perfect, and the symbolism of the Temple presents itself in a connected, continuous form.

The Temple of Solomon, after standing 420 years, was totally destroyed by the Chaldeans under Nebuchadnezzar. Its successor, erected by Zerubbabel, stood nearly 500 years. It was taken down by Herod and replaced by a third. This Temple of Herod, after standing about 100 years, was destroyed by the Romans under Titus. The Mosque of Omar, occupying the original site of those three Temples, has stood about 1,200 years on the original foundation built by Solomon. But amid all these changes covering about thirty centuries, the foundations laid by the builders of Solomon have remained unmoved, composed of immense stones, artistically laid together, each said to be designated by the private mark of its quarryman—the stones anchored together and to the sides of Mt. Moriah by bars of iron and lead; the great foundation wall, 1,000 feet thick and 1,500

feet long, stands after defying alike the ravages of barbarism, the force of earthquakes and the silent efforts of time, for 3,000 years. And so it will probably stand until the fiat of the G. A. O. T. U. shall declare that "time shall be no more."

The traditions and historical instruction of the Royal Arch degree have reference to the destruction of King Solomon's Temple and to the erection of the second temple, its successor, by Zerubbabel.

If we except the Master's, there is no degree in Masonry that has been so extensively diffused or is as important in its historical and symbolical import, as the Royal Arch, or as it is called on account of its sublime significance, the "Holy Royal Arch." Dermot calls it, "the root, heart and marrow of Masonry," while Oliver says, "it is indescribably more august, sublime and important than any which have preceded it and is in fact the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry;" and no Master Mason is in possession of all that Freemasonry teaches without the Royal Arch, which is the completion of the Master Mason's degree.

The Royal Arch, as the rainbow of promise in the ritual, stands for the promise of the resurrection of that which was lost and shall be recovered. We are taught that as we journey along the rough and rugged road of life, over which we must all pass, we must be willing to overcome hardships and brave dangers, if we are to be found worthy of the rewards that await the faithful, the sincere and persevering.

Our civilization is a majestic temple, a growing building being continually constructed in every age by the hands of the toilers, the minds of the thinkers and the hearts of the lovers. It grows gradually through periods of quiet preparation to great epochs when its glory is unveiled.

In the building of the Temple of Civilization, it is given in our age for us to be workmen of the Temple, carrying forward the work in a spirit of service.

The two greatest enemies of fine accomplishment that threaten our work are materialism and intolerance. Materialism measures everything by selfish returns, it marks the loss of the spirit of the true workman who found his chief reward in work worthy of him. We must overcome materialism with true vision, seeking ever more and more light on our work.

Intolerance seeks to mould all men into a single form. It sets a standard of attractive mediocrity which denies excellence and self expression. We need a new dedication to liberty that each man may know himself and bring to the building the full measure of his powers.

Freemasonry has endured because it is founded on the immutable laws of truth and right. In all ages it has inculcated in its members, the principles of liberty, equality, fraternity, law, order and good government. It emblazons upon its banners, the Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man, teaching the sacred duties of brotherly love, of truth, wisdom, justice and mercy.

Freemasonry came early to the shores of America, long before the name of our republic had been whispered, and all down through the years its membership has been a vital force in the advancement of good citizenship. If history recorded the unseen influences which go to the making of a nation, those forces for good which never stop, never tarry, never tire, and of which our social order is the outward and visible sign, then might the real story of Masonry in America be told.

While it is the proud boast of Freemasonry that she shall never lose her veneration for the past, we are taught that Masonry is a progressive science. For hundreds of years it has adapted to life's problems the unchanging moral principles handed down from Operative Masonry. Just as the rules of architecture adapt themselves to all forms of buildings, so do the truths of Masonry apply themselves to the manifold questions of our present civilization.

From Operative Masonry to Speculative Masonry was a change demanded by progress, and the same spirit of progress demands a virile interpretation of our teachings in the form of Applied Masonry.

While we "keep the best of the past" with the inspiration and lesson from the experience of those who have gone before us, we do not regret that many of the old things have passed away. Better things have come to us and we shall do well if we live up to our opportunities as completely as our ancestors met the demands of their time. We live today in a restive age of criticism, controversy and ungovernable vivacity, an interesting time to live, when magnitude of achievement is only surpassed by magnificence of endeavor, when venerable traditions tremble like a steeple in an earthquake and the impossible claims the soul, like the sailor is claimed by the sea.

But we are also living in a feverish age, as Kipling expresses it:

Snap! Bang! Oh, keep your touch—
We're going round a corner.

In years to come, our era may be referred to as the "jazz period." The spirit of jazz stands for all that is frivolous and superficial. Its spirit of recklessness and insincerity seems to have infected practically every line of human endeavor and accomplishment, attacking the finest flowers of our civilization—poetry, fiction, art, religion, society, politics, and government.

As an effect of the war today the whole social system of the world is filled with confusion and unrest. To many, things which they trusted for the preservation of our civilization appear to have broken down and there is a prevalent lack of confidence and trust among our fellowmen. And also there are being scattered broadcast seeds of insidious endeavor to undermine our national edifice. The forces of ignorance, prejudice, greed and selfishness in innumerable secret ways are seeking to destroy our civilization. At such a time, the stability of our institutions and hope for years to come, depends upon the instilling into the hearts and lives of men about us, the realization of the fact that there can be neither peace or prosperity without honesty of purpose and straightforward dealing between man and man.

The world needs the strong Brotherly Grip.

Our ancient brethren journeying from Babylon to Jerusalem had one strong purpose in mind: "To aid in the noble and glorious work of rebuilding our city and the Temple of the Lord." Their desire was for service, and their reply to the inquiry: "What part of the work are you willing to undertake?" was promptly, "Any part, to assist in so noble and glorious an undertaking."

To the inquiry, "What are you willing to undertake in the rebuilding of the City of the Brotherhood of Man?" are we ready, like those of the old days, to answer, "Any portion of the work, be it ever so humble." Let us all as Royal Arch Masons join in the great work of preservation of our civilization and restoration of the confidence of man with one another by the example of our lives and characters. To us as Masons comes this challenge alike of loyalty, of patriotism and devotion.

My Companions, the past is valuable for the experience it brings to us and the lessons it teaches. The past speaks to us today.

One hundred years drop out and we are standing face to face and grasping hands with the Companions who organized this Chapter, and from the strange scenes about us we catch inspiration to follow their example, and to do what we may to preserve and transmit the sublime principles of our Ancient Craft. Their acts influenced not only themselves and those about them, but they affect us today and will exert a power in years to come, and so it is that our institution, while in harmony with the conditions of today reaches back into achievements of the past and forward into the possibilities of the future. Our duty today is to face our problems with the same high courage which our forefathers exhibited in other days. Renewing our vows of loyalty to the great principles of Masonry, trusting the power of truth, the worth of character and wisdom of love, and make of Masonry today on a large scale, what it was in former times on a small scale—an order of men, sworn and trained to make liberty, justice and truth prevail.

To you of the present, and the Companions of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter yet to come, one hundred years ripe with achievements and steadfast purpose is your heritage and patrimony, and yours is to guard the portals of the future, ever remembering that:

Darkly hid beneath the quarry,
Masons, many a true block lies;
Hands must shape, and hands must carry,
Ere the Overseer will prize.
Seek for it, measure it,
Fashion it, polish it;
Then the Overseer will prize.

What though shapeless, rough and heavy,
Think ye God his work will lose?
Raise the block with strength he gave ye,
Fit it for the Master's use.
Seek for it, measure it,
Fashion it, polish it;
Then the Overseer will use.

'T was for this our fathers banded—
Through life's quarries they did roam;
Faithful-hearted, skilful-handed,
Bearing many a true Block home.
Noticing, measuring,
Fashioning, polishing,
For the glorious temple-home!

HIGH PRIESTS OF THOMAS CHAPTER

*Samuel Clarke ...1821, '22, '23, '24	*Edward D. Moody1895-'97
*John G. Davis1825, '26	*Cyrus A. Foster1898
*Charles G. Russell ...1827, '28, '29	Nathan E. Metcalf1899
*Alex Dustin1830, '31	Thomas H. Crane.....1900, '01
*David Wilder1847	George H. Priest1902, '03
*John D. Pratt1848, '49	William A. Pearce.....1904, '05
*Jonas A. Marshall 1850, '51, '55-57	Harry F. Allen1906
*William B. Towne1852	George W. Bigelow1907
*Asher Greene1853, '54	Charles W. Godfrey1908
*George Sherwin1858, '59, '60	Clarence L. Trowbridge1909
*D. Waterman Tuttle1861	Fred A. Watson1910
*William J. Merriam1862	Archie E. Perkins1911
*Charles S. Litch1863-'69, '72	John G. Faxon1912
*Joseph E. Manning1870, '71	Ernest L. Whitney1913
*Elbridge G. Snow..1873-'75, '86-'88	William A. Robbins1914
*Charles H. Hayward1876-'78	Wilbur W. Henry1915
*George S. Richardson1879-'82	Fred A. Young1916
*Wilbur B. Tenney1883-'85	G. Burton Lord1917
*Fred H. Rideout1889, '90	Forrest A. Bliss1918
*Thomas Kelty1891	Edward A. A. Lamere1919
*Charles S. Alexander....1892, '93	James C. Eteson1920
*Charles H. Proctor1894	Richard S. Tucker1921

*Deceased.

CANDIDATES AND MEMBERSHIP

	Candidates Admitted	Total Membership		Candidates Admitted	Total Membership
1847	4	14	1885	6	140
1848	3	15	1886	4	127
1849	..	15	1887	4	121
1850	..	15	1888	11	129
1851	3	17	1889	15	126
1852	..	17	1890	13	126
1853	..	17	1891	13	139
1854	2	17	1892	24	155
1855	3	26	1893	16	167
1856	5	19	1894	15	176
1857	4	22	1895	12	171
1858	3	26	1896	10	163
1859	13	32	1897	5	160
1860	6	40	1898	15	158
1861	6	51	1899	6	160
1862	10	56	1900	9	164
1863	9	63	1901	9	171
1864	6	66	1902	12	178
1865	6	70	1903	12	188
1866	19	75	1904	13	198
1867	23	104	1905	28	223
1868	12	117	1906	20	240
1869	7	113	1907	15	248
1870	15	121	1908	15	257
1871	16	133	1909	18	265
1872	15	144	1910	18	281
1873	23	173	1911	10	285
1874	16	183	1912	15	291
1875	9	168	1913	8	293
1876	9	175	1914	11	297
1877	6	172	1915	4	293
1878	..	163	1916	13	303
1879	5	161	1917	9	302
1880	6	163	1918	6	298
1881	3	163	1919	27	323
1882	8	163	1920	40	361
1883	3	160	1921	56	418
1884	10	163			

LIST OF CANDIDATES

ROYAL ARCH DEGREE

1822

Joel PrattMay 29
Alexander DustinMay 29
John D. PrattMay 29
Lawson MirickSept. 25
Rev. Levi BriggsOct. 30
Elisha AndrewsOct. 30
William GoodaleOct. 30
George EstabrookNov. 27

1823

Shubal PondJan. 22
James Estabrook, Jr.Jan. 22
Lewis ThayerJan. 22
Jacob W. WatsonFeb. 19
Benjamin RuggFeb. 19
Manasseh BaileyJune 18
Thomas AlkerJuly 16
Cyrus WinshipSept. 24
Rev. Benjamin WillardSept. 24

1825

Rev. John D. PeirceFeb. 14
Artemas BarnesFeb. 22
Rev. Sumner LincolnFeb. 22
Rev. Ebenezer MerrickSept. 21
Rev. Charles HudsonNov. 23
Silas WillardNov. 23

1826

Leonard BabcockMar. 3
Rev. Horatio BardwellApr. 19
Adonijah HoweMay 16
Ephraim EvelethMay 16
Rev. Charles C. P. Crosby ..May 16
Daniel H. WiswellJune 11
George H. HillsJune 11
John H. WheelerNov. 8
Rev. Abijah SamsonNov. 8

1827

Stephen FarwellJan. 1
Jonathan MannApr. 11
Daniel EddyApr. 11
Morey FarnumApr. 11
Benjamin WilsonMay 9
Joseph F. LoringJuly 6
John M. SmithOct. 3
Simylan MillerDec. 15

1828

William DayFeb. 27
Samuel FlaggFeb. 27

1847

Jonas A. MarshallMar. 21
Asher GreeneMar. 21
Nathaniel S. BoutelleMar. 21
Aaron F. BeamanMar. 21

1848

Warren C. UptonJan. 4
Kendall HarwoodFeb. 18
Ivers PhillipsApr. 12

1851

George SaltmarshJune 11
Wells R. BardswellJune 11
George H. SherwinJune 11

1854

Mortimer ButterfieldApr. 9
Charles FessendenApr. 9

1855

D. Waterman TuttleMar. 28
Charles L. TenneyMar. 28

1856

Charles W. WilderMar. 13
Moses G. LyonMar. 13
Thomas C. CaldwellApr. 16
Arnold WilsonApr. 16
Goldsmith F. BaileyJune 30
J. Prescott CuttingAug. 13

1857

J. Henry IshamFeb. 4
Henry J. LoweFeb. 4
E. W. CoffinFeb. 4
Jeremiah B. LovettJune 3

1858

Edwin RichardsonMar. 24
E. Dana BancroftSept. 22
Oliver N. WingDec. 15
Albert DikeDec. 15
John N. RobertsDec. 15

1859

William J. MerriamMar. 2
Benjamin F. TaftMar. 2
Oran S. RiceApr. 27
Lucius W. KingsburyApr. 27
Joseph A. TuftsMay 25
Henry T. PrattMay 25
Henry F. CogshallJune 22
George WheelockJune 22
Joseph PeirceSept. 7
Lewis W. WorsterDec. 7

1860

John BurneyMar. 21
Joseph E. ManningMar. 21
David C. BrickMar. 21
Albert TaintorMay 16
Edmund A. W. HunterMay 16
W. R. HaskinsSept. 26
Charles H. MerriamSept. 26
John B. ArnoldSept. 26

1861

Charles S. LitchMar. 6
Chauncey L. S. Hammond.....Mar. 6
Alonzo GouldMar. 6

1862

George H. SpencerApr. 20
Francis SheldonApr. 20
Charles H. LoweApr. 20
Charles E. DadmunApr. 26
William E. SmithApr. 26
John H. LockeyApr. 26
Albert A. BeckwithJune 18
Jared Whitman, Jr.June 18

1863

John J. FolsomJan. 7
Samuel N. ShattuckJan. 7
Alexander O. HamiltonJan. 7
Henry C. HillApr. 8
John ChoateApr. 8
Charles J. DelehantyApr. 8
Edward J. SawyerJune 15
H. H. StoweJune 15
C. E. PrattJune 15

1864

Edward J. CrossmanJan. 13
William KimballJan. 13
Henry AllisonJan. 13
Sullivan W. HuntleyApr. 20
Alonzo GouldApr. 20
Charles H. B. SnowMay 9
Charles HaywoodMay 9
John Q. WrightMay 9
Alfred A. WalkerOct. 26
Gardner E. HallOct. 26

1865

Porter J. BartonMay 24
John W. HillMay 24
Joseph W. AllenMay 31
Simeon FullerMay 31
Frederick W. Cummings....Oct. 25
Francis D. WhitneyOct. 25
Charles E. LukeOct. 25

1866

Alfred HitchcockJan. 10
Cyrus BrownJan. 10

J. W. Work	May 16	Frank C. Hill	Nov. 11
Edward E. Spencer	May 16	Louis N. Wilbur	Nov. 11
Hale W. Page	May 16		
Alvin Phinney	May 16	1869	
Ithamar B. Sawtelle	June 13	Simeon Oaks	May 12
Alfred M. Adams	June 13	Sherburne S. Dow	May 12
Albert L. Fessenden	June 13	Charles H. Hayward	May 12
Joseph C. Moulton	June 14	Ira H. Thurber	June 9
George Taft	June 14	Nathaniel G. Tucker	Nov. 10
Edwin A. Larkin	June 14	Elbridge G. Snow	Nov. 10
George F. Morse	June 27	Henry G. Morse	Nov. 10
Alfred L. Burdett	June 27		
Luther J. Brown	June 27	1870	
Otis T. Ruggles	June 28	Frederick W. Crocker	Jan. 24
Alpheus P. Kimball	June 28	William E. Wallace	Jan. 24
John W. Kimball	June 28	Isaac C. Wright	Jan. 24
William H. Heustis	Oct. 31	Eugene C. Porter	Feb. 2
John T. Emerson	Oct. 31	Armony Jewett, Jr.	Feb. 2
Henry L. Jones	Oct. 31	John L. Cummings	Feb. 2
David Cram	Nov. 6	C. F. Reed	July 27
Charles Emery	Nov. 6	Henry Smith	July 27
		George V. Barrett	July 27
1867		Reuben M. Starbuck	July 28
Henry F. Piper	Mar. 2	Alonzo Burt	July 28
Merrill Carlton	Mar. 2	Charles A. Morgan	July 28
Samuel M. Farwell	Mar. 2		
Henry A. Brown	Apr. 17	1871	
William F. Kenney	Apr. 17	Milton M. Cushing	Apr. 19
William F. White	May 15	Eli Culley	Apr. 19
Charles J. Billings	May 15	David A. Corey	Apr. 19
George E. Towne	May 15	Miletus Gleason	Apr. 21
		Samuel R. Damon	Apr. 21
1868		George Heywood	Apr. 26
John Q. Peabody	Apr. 8	Alvin M. Greenwood	Apr. 26
James F. D. Garfield	Apr. 8	John D. Edgell	Apr. 26
Stephen E. Denton	Apr. 8	Henry Heywood	Apr. 26
Charles H. Caldwell	Apr. 9	L. L. Sawin	Apr. 26
Boardman Parkhurst	Apr. 9	Charles A. Smith	Apr. 26
Jarvis R. Wood	Apr. 9	F. W. Wallace	Apr. 26
Horace W. Eldredge	June 17	Ernest Hoffman	Apr. 26
Francis I. Nichols	June 17	George F. Ellsworth	Apr. 26
Frank L. Boutelle	June 17	Lewis Saunders	May 10
John M. Sawtelle	Oct. 30	Asa S. Lawton	May 10
Charles Everett	Oct. 30	Darius R. Stevens	Oct. 11
Thomas Trees	Oct. 30	J. A. Kendall	Oct. 11
George H. Chapman	Nov. 11	Samuel N. Holden	Oct. 11
		Samuel A. Wheeler, Jr.	Oct. 11

1872

Austin F. Smith	Mar. 1
William B. Rockwell	Mar. 1
Waldo C. Corey	Mar. 1
I. D. Harthan	Mar. 7
Alfred A. Marshall	Mar. 7
Aaron K. Litch	Mar. 7
Byron F. Kingsbury	Mar. 7
Oliver J. Putnam	Mar. 7
Frank E. Corey	Mar. 8
A. B. Cleveland	Mar. 8
Charles L. Fairbanks	Mar. 8
William H. H. Shattuck	Mar. 13
Charles C. Cook	Oct. 1
Mark T. Greenwood	Oct. 1
James P. Derby	Oct. 1
Frank M. Whitney	Oct. 2
Andrew J. Woodward	Oct. 2

1873

Joel Joel	Jan. 22
A. L. Kendall	Jan. 22
David A. Gilmore	Jan. 23
Henry G. Greene	Jan. 23
Alexander H. Carlyle, Jr.	Jan. 27
Charles C. Walker	Jan. 27
Joseph M. Peirce	Jan. 27
Herbert O. Morse	Apr. 9
Nathaniel Jewett	Apr. 23
Pliny F. Towne	Apr. 23
Frank I. Litch	Apr. 23
James H. Fairbanks	Apr. 24
Luman Raymond	Apr. 24
Asahel Wheeler	Apr. 24
Moses P. Greenwood	Apr. 30
Theodore Greenwood	Apr. 30
John H. Wilkins	Apr. 30
Philander H. Fletcher	Sept. 17
Samuel J. Thompson	Sept. 17
Charles H. Livermore	Sept. 17
James W. Comfort	Nov. 5
Henry A. Hatch	Nov. 5
George B. Woodward	Nov. 12
Henry E. Crawford	Nov. 15
M. T. Doten	Nov. 12

1874

Edgar B. Twitchell	Jan. 28
Walter P. Guy	Jan. 28
James E. Morse	Jan. 28
John P. Holbrook	Mar. 4
Henry J. Parmenter	Mar. 4
John C. Howard	Mar. 4
Sumner S. Lawrence	July 22
Charles G. Cushing	July 22

1875

Salmon W. Putnam	May 5
John H. Scott	May 5
George S. Richardson	May 5
Henry Thrasher	May 19
Charles H. Whittemore	May 19
Otis E. Alley	May 19
Edward G. Poole	Aug. 4
Thomas C. Sheldon	Aug. 4
Charles A. Sloan	Aug. 4

1876

Norris F. Grinnell	Jan. 19
Isaac C. Alden	Jan. 19
James S. Cutter	Jan. 19
John B. Whitcomb	June 7
P. G. Kent	June 7
David J. Jones	June 7
Wilbur B. Tenney	July 12
Charles F. Baker	July 12
Thomas Cotton	July 12
Horace N. Hammond	Nov. 15

1877

Edwin H. Piper	Apr. 18
D. Sidney Woodworth	Apr. 18
Edwin A. Spaulding	Aug. 3
Prescott C. Rice	Aug. 3
Michael Thompson	Aug. 3

1879

George M. Sands	Jan. 15
Edwin F. Simonds	Feb. 10
William R. Deering	May 14
Henry A. Turner	May 14
Charles S. Hunt	May 14

1880

William H. JewettApr. 14
 Charles L. SandsApr. 14
 John MitchellApr. 14
 Clarence M. ConverseJune 30
 A. Warren Baker, Jr.June 30
 C. H. PotterJune 30

1881

Albert B. LawrenceJune 22
 Harry DavidsonJune 22
 George L. BloodJune 22
 Edward J. SawtelleNov. 9

1882

Lorenzo ChaseFeb. 8
 George A. WilsonFeb. 8
 Charles A. NoyesJuly 12
 Everett E. TarbellJuly 26
 Edward F. SibleyJuly 26
 Joseph S. WilsonJuly 26
 Edward T. JewettJuly 26

1883

George E. CliffordJan. 10
 Henry S. DerbyJan. 10
 Charles A. GoodrichMay 3
 Edward HillDec. 12
 Edwin L. EldridgeDec. 12
 William C. WingDec. 12

1884

David M. CushingJan. 9
 Daniel W. MartinJan. 9
 Francis H. ShawJan. 9
 Merritt A. HoltonFeb. 27
 Seth E. BrighamFeb. 27
 Henry R. BrownMar. 12
 Amos B. MerrillMar. 12

1885

Charles B. DennisFeb. 13
 Fred H. RideoutFeb. 13
 George H. JohnsonApr. 8
 B. Marshall PittsJune 10

Alexander DraffinJune 10
 William O. TaylorAug. 26

1886

Oliver H. AllenFeb. 15
 Thomas KeltyFeb. 15
 Norman B. StoneMay 19
 Nathan E. MetcalfMay 19

1887

Augustus A. WileyJune 15
 Albert L. PrattJune 15
 Henry W. CushingJune 22
 Fritz L. JohnsonJune 22
 Charles E. BigelowNov. 16
 George W. FosterNov. 16
 Joel G. TylerNov. 16

1888

Albert W. WilliamsMar. 7
 Harry C. DavenportMar. 7
 John A. WheelerMar. 7
 Walter N. WellingtonMay 30
 Frederick A. CurrierMay 30
 Henry O. PutnamMay 30
 Walter B. JewettMay 30
 Ernest C. FieldJune 13

1889

George C. ProutyFeb. 25
 Ernest W. PerryFeb. 27
 Eben F. PierceFeb. 27
 William H. CropperMar. 13
 Charles A. CrossMar. 13
 Myron B. DamonMar. 13
 Charles S. AlexanderMar. 20
 Charles H. ProctorMar. 20
 Robert D. GouldMar. 20
 Fred L. BennettApr. 10
 Philip E. GirardJune 5
 Charles F. IrishJune 5
 Guy WoodsJuly 30
 Daniel McBainJuly 30
 Myron E. SmithJuly 30
 Edgar A. WilliamsOct. 9
 Leon A. WhitneyOct. 9
 Alvan E. MossmanOct. 9

1890

I. Clark Kepler	Mar. 19
Alfred R. Chilton	Mar. 19
Charles A. Babbitt	Mar. 19
Fred W. Thomas	July 16
John W. Ogden	July 16
William H. Griffin	July 23
Charles S. Whitney	July 23
William M. W. Spring	July 30
Carroll Z. Parker	July 30
Benjamin D. Dwinnell	July 30

1891

Charles E. Keyes	Feb. 25
George E. Ferson	Feb. 25
Edward J. Cutter	May 13
Edward B. Kingman	May 13
Charles H. Rice	May 13
Daniel Simonds	May 13
Edward F. Blodgett	May 13
Walter T. Robbins	May 13
Benjamin A. Young	May 20
Samuel Anderson	May 20
James Flannagan	May 20
William L. Bartlett	May 20
William H. Wetherbee	May 20
Edward E. Shaw	Oct. 7
Edward D. Moody	Dec. 16
Elijah Stebbins	Dec. 16
Albert E. Vincellette	Dec. 16
William A. Lasselle	Dec. 16
William G. Hidden	Dec. 16
Carlton A. Hubbell	Dec. 16
Walter A. Davis	Dec. 16
Frank D. Page	Dec. 16
Herbert E. Jennison	Dec. 16
John R. Hosmer	Dec. 16
James B. Austin	Dec. 16
Fred D. Lesure	Dec. 16
Frank W. Barnes	Dec. 16

1892

Daniel W. Hancock	Mar. 16
Harry Aitchison	Mar. 16

Arthur S. Adams	Dec. 23
Edwin M. Read	June 8
James Pearce	June 8
Walter E. Culley	June 4
William R. Northup	June 8
Henry J. Lewis	June 4
Joseph W. Palmer	June 4
Joseph W. M. Brown	June 4
George H. Priest	June 4
Fred S. Huntley	Dec. 23
Walter K. Jewett	Dec. 23
Jabez F. Fisher	Dec. 23
Edward Sharrock	Dec. 23

1893

James E. Ellis	Mar. 1
Edwin A. Hubbard	Mar. 1
John W. Lee	Mar. 28
Charles S. Brown	May 1
Cyrus A. Foster	May 1
Henry D. Robbins	May 1
Henry R. Woods	May 1
Francis D. Tuttle	May 28
Robert Dunlap	May 31
Mathew Waddell	May 31
Charles D. Wilder	June 28
Eustace L. Fiske	Nov. 1
Edward A. Sawyer	Nov. 1
Fred A. Beckwith	Nov. 1
William T. Hidden	Nov. 1
Charles E. Hidden	Nov. 1
Murray H. Ballou	Nov. 1

1894

Willard L. Humes	Feb. 7
Charles O. Gibson	Apr. 25
Francis F. Farrar	Apr. 25
Augustus L. Whitney	Apr. 25
Wilbur N. Maynard	June 27
Harry L. Pierce	June 27
Frederic S. Coolidge	June 27
William Allan	June 27
Walter G. Dow	June 27
Samuel C. Lawson	Nov. 14
H. Nelson Lawrence	Nov. 14

1895

Austin E. Rockwood	Jan. 16
Albert P. Quirin	Jan. 16
C. Willis Bennett	Jan. 16
Thomas H. Crane	Jan. 16
Charles E. Hudson	June 19
Alexander S. Paton	June 19
Guy A. Adams	Aug. 9
Charles W. Chase	Aug. 9
John P. Williamson	Aug. 9
Charles A. Priest	Aug. 9

1896

Frank H. Worster	Apr. 8
Fred A. Tolman	Apr. 8
Vernon H. Vaughan	Apr. 8
Edward A. Bruce	Apr. 8
Asa McKenny	Apr. 8
Charles F. Josselyn	May 6
John Pickering	May 6
Arthur C. Merriman	May 6
Benjamin A. Cook	May 6
Alonzo H. Rice	June 30
Alexander S. Garfield	Oct. 6
Frank R. Towle	Dec. 23

1897

William C. Bennett	Jan. 5
Abram Conklin	May 19
George P. Grant, Jr.	May 19
Alexander McKenzie	May 19
Albert J. Atwood	Dec. 8
Arthur C. Josselyn	Dec. 8
Lyman B. Spaulding	Dec. 8

1898

Frank H. Foss	Mar. 16
Elmer A. Onthank	Mar. 16
Emory A. Hartwell	Mar. 16
Harold M. Dean	Mar. 16
James B. Bolton	Mar. 16
William L. Sargent	Mar. 16
Harry C. Bascom	June 1
Homer R. Briggs	June 1
Dwight C. Woodruff	June 22

Walter A. Covell	June 22
John Lovell Johnson	June 22

1899

Robert S. Parks	Jan. 11
Frank A. Damon	Jan. 11
Walter K. Wiley	Jan. 11
John B. Gooch	June 14
George E. Phillips	June 14
Preston Smith	June 14

1900

Percy Rand	Jan. 24
William C. Goodwin	Jan. 24
Franklin S. Hall	Jan. 24
Harry C. Garfield	Feb. 14
Harry F. Allen	Feb. 14
John Shirreffs	Feb. 14
Charles W. Cookson	Feb. 14
Orin E. Litchfield	Feb. 14
Arthur W. Fairbanks	June 13

1901

Everett B. Richardson	Mar. 20
Sidney J. Francis	Mar. 20
Maurice W. Parker	Mar. 20
Hugh D. Bennie	Mar. 20
Henry O. Brooks	June 5
Edwin C. Babbitt	June 5
Michael Little	June 5
William A. Pearce	June 5
Milton C. Babbitt	June 5

1902

Samuel H. Lowe	Feb. 19
Louis S. King	Feb. 19
Charles J. Russell	Feb. 19
Joseph H. Keyes	Feb. 19
George T. Greenwood	Feb. 19
Arthur L. Goodnow	Feb. 19
Edward A. A. Lamere	Mar. 12
Henry A. Wilder	Mar. 12
John E. Lambert	July 2
Walter O. Johnson	July 2
George L. Parker	July 2
John Greany, Jr.	July 2

Alfred W. ColburnDec. 10
Mathew C. HendersonDec. 10
Samuel N. StevensDec. 10

1903

Frank I. PeckhamFeb. 18
Frederick W. ParksFeb. 18
Joseph T. KerryMay 6
Ernest L. StarkeyMay 6
Frank C. WheelockMay 27
William CairnsMay 27
Thomas GrieveMay 27
Hugh M. LairdMay 27
William A. PutnamJune 12

1904

Joseph H. DavisonJan. 20
George W. BigelowJan. 20
Clarence L. Trowbridge ...Jan. 20
Henry E. CowdreyFeb. 1
Charles F. CowdreyFeb. 1
Ernest W. CrowfootFeb. 8
Frank A. StrattonApr. 6
Leon C. BarnesApr. 6
Everett W. PattersonApr. 6
Albert F. FrancisApr. 6
William SherryApr. 6
Frank G. LesureApr. 13
Frank C. AllenApr. 13
Ernest W. GilsonApr. 13
Charles W. GodfreyJune 30
Fred A. WatsonJune 30
Isaac N. DamonDec. 21
William G. FisherDec. 21
John D. LittlehaleDec. 21
George A. PorterDec. 21
Walter F. WhitneyDec. 21
Silas RichardsonDec. 21

1905

Joseph F. JasephFeb. 1
George R. WilliamsFeb. 1
John G. FaxonFeb. 1
James H. FakeFeb. 1
Daniel MurphyFeb. 28
Ernest L. HersomFeb. 28
Spencer PearsonApr. 5

Albert JohnsonApr. 5
Charles A. WestonApr. 5
Edward P. RichApr. 5
Herbert J. BantaApr. 5
Charles W. HamblenApr. 5
Irving C. SmithApr. 5
Charles W. StevensonApr. 12
Justin J. DamonApr. 12
Merton T. WalkerApr. 12
Irving C. SmithApr. 12
George D. HarperJune 7
William J. LyonsJune 7
Willard W. JonesJune 7
John W. TiltonJune 7
Clarence L. GardnerJune 7
Henry A. EstabrookNov. 15
Edwin N. CummingsNov. 15
John R. SimpsonNov. 15

1906

Robert MarcyFeb. 28
Edward A. HackwellFeb. 28
Alfred P. HenwoodApr. 4
William L. WalkerApr. 4
Walter A. HardyApr. 4
Fred A. YoungApr. 4
Herbert G. MorseApr. 4
Erwin F. PersonApr. 4
Allen D. WoodsApr. 18
Roy O. LittlehaleApr. 18
Harry M. BrooksApr. 18
Ralph C. LawrenceApr. 18
Horace F. CookJune 20
Clarence E. SibleyJune 20
Gustaf L. EnforsJune 20
Nelson J. WilcoxJune 20

1907

Frank G. PerryFeb. 20
Thomas SherryFeb. 20
Arthur S. DavisonFeb. 20
Archie E. PerkinsApr. 10
Hiram B. McDonaldApr. 10
Lewis L. SymondsApr. 10
Reuben R. AkersApr. 17
Chester A. CleggApr. 17

William A. WestApr. 17
 Frank O. LothropApr. 17
 William E. LothropApr. 17
 William C. RaileyMay 22
 Rolfe W. SmithMay 22
 Archie E. HarringtonMay 22
 Earl R. PersonMay 22
 Ernest L. WhitneyNov. 13
 Forrest A. BlissNov. 13
 Franklin S. UphamNov. 13
 Elbert I. BrighamDec. 18
 William G. McKeeDec. 18
 William H. HamiltonDec. 18

1908

Edward H. HatfieldJan. 29
 Alfred IllingworthJan. 29
 Harry BrooksJan. 29
 John B. FellowsApr. 1
 Russell BrighamApr. 1
 Myron W. DoleApr. 22
 Harland O. PrattApr. 22
 Albert E. HeustisJuly 1
 Frank W. BoutwellJuly 1
 John L. BaileyDec. 16
 Thatcher R. Rich, Jr.Dec. 16
 Oscar F. SagerDec. 16

1909

Milton H. WesleyJan. 27
 Earl H. WarnerJan. 27
 Elmer A. HolbrookJan. 27
 Kenneth M. MacDonald..Mar. 17
 Ivers P. LawrenceMar. 17
 Ernest M. JenkinsMar. 17
 Elbert W. HersomApr. 14
 William A. RobbinsApr. 14
 Charles H. MossApr. 14
 Cassius M. CookApr. 14
 Frederick W. PopeApr. 14
 Edward F. KimballMay 12
 Fred L. DruryMay 12
 William M. SymeJune 9
 Wilmot C. FrearJune 9
 Alfred C. WenzelDec. 8

George L. NashDec. 8
 Ornan S. CookDec. 8
 Harry Alden AllisonDec. 8
 Frank Julius ShawDec. 8

1910

Charles A. GleasonJan. 12
 Stephen D. BennettJan. 12
 George W. LordJan. 12
 Wilbur W. HenryFeb. 16
 Robert R. PorterFeb. 16
 Maurice E. HobbsMar. 23
 William T. DobbsMar. 23
 Rubert L. BroughMay 18
 Joseph B. GriffinMay 18
 John W. CaldwellMay 18
 Ralph E. ThomsonJune 8
 James C. EtesonJune 8
 George R. PeabodyJune 8
 Francis E. DrummondDec. 14
 Francis E. MerriamDec. 14

1911

Andrew JohnsonMar. 8
 Frank H. ColemanMar. 8
 George BaldwinApr. 12
 Joseph H. KiblingApr. 12
 Richard S. TuckerApr. 12
 Samuel E. M. CrockerMay 8
 Ashton D. RossJune 28
 Harry E. FarwellJune 28
 Harry H. BowenJune 28
 Frederick A. ShattuckDec. 13
 William A. KenneyDec. 13
 Charles L. GrubbDec. 13

1912

Alois A. GressnichJan. 17
 William H. HackettJan. 17
 Henry F. GressnichJan. 17
 Herbert R. Higginbotham..Jan. 17
 Frank McKinneyMar. 13
 Burton G. WalkerMay 8
 Charles A. Sherwin, Jr....May 8
 Harry E. RogersMay 15
 Alfred F. TarbellMay 15

Harry GayMay 15
Richard HodgsonMay 15

1913

Oscar E. WareFeb. 12
Paul F. GressnichApr. 9
Willie D. CrookerApr. 9
Roy M. HillsJune 11
Frederick E. Wellington ...June 11
George F. JeftsJune 11
Julian A. HillsJune 11
Otto A. HendrianJune 11
Murray C. DamonDec. 10
Daniel E. WoodDec. 10

1914

Walter B. CliffordJan. 14
Edward B. SaundersMar. 11
Harry W. DoleMar. 11
Allan S. PhelpsMay 12
George B. WarnerMay 13
Harry A. LawrenceMay 13
Alfred WoolacottMay 13
Henry H. WheelockJune 10
Ubert C. RussellJune 10
Charles E. WoodsJune 10
Edwin L. CookDec. 9
Roy N. FisherDec. 9

1915

J. Clayton BatesMay 12

1916

Ernest G. CarswellApr. 12
Henry E. ParkerApr. 12
Edward M. HarrisApr. 12
Samuel J. HaskellJune 7
George W. HyattJune 7
Joseph E. CheneyJune 7
Bernard D. BosworthJune 7
Leroy BarrettJune 7
William J. StephensonJune 7
John F. WidlundJune 14
Harrison M. BrownJune 14
Charles A. PrescottJune 14
Lewis O. WestJune 14

Charles A. WoodwardDec. 20
Frederic C. NicholsDec. 20
Edward B. TourtellotteDec. 20

1917

George T. SandsJan. 31
Herman D. HortonJan. 31
Ira C. FarwellJan. 31
Charles W. GallupMar. 28
Roy M. RyderMar. 28
Celtic Nicholson, Jr.June 13

1918

Sidney J. BellMar. 13
John C. BatchelderMar. 13
Harold W. KittredgeMar. 13
Carl B. JoelJune 5
Ernest J. LothropJune 5
Russell J. HardyJune 29

1919

Oliver H. WileyJan. 8
Lewis P. DamonJan. 8
John M. WalkerMar. 5
Frank W. BanisterMar. 5
Percy F. KittredgeMar. 5
J. Frank BarrettMar. 5
Carl W. H. CowdreyMar. 5
Orlando D. EllisApr. 2
George M. BlakelyApr. 2
Frederic I. JohnsonApr. 2
Henry W. DavisApr. 2
Charles H. McKayApr. 2
Henry F. FeldmanMay 14
Paul F. MorseMay 14
Thomas CaseyMay 14
William B. HayMay 14
Edgar F. WrightMay 14
Orlando E. BickfordMay 14
William H. BatesMay 14
Frederick EyrsMay 14
Earl C. GoodnowJuly 2
James M. SymeJuly 2
Robert D. DouglasJuly 2
Warner M. AllenJuly 2
William DavidsonJuly 2

Henry T. Brockelman	July	2	Carl G. Jensen	Nov.	10
Charles E. Lacey	July	2	Albert E. Cutler	Nov.	10
Henry Marshall	July	2	Herbert G. Frazee	Nov.	10
Charles W. Harrison	Nov.	5	Harold S. Morse	Nov.	10
Harry A. Draffin	Nov.	5	George P. Jones	Nov.	10
Alberton O. Clark	Nov.	5	George W. Jones	Nov.	10
George E. Haven	Nov.	5	Howard G. Sanford	Nov.	10
Robert Walker	Dec.	3	Clayton G. Bates	Nov.	10
Bernard P. Steele	Dec.	3	Albert L. Johnson	Nov.	24
Walter W. Kingston	Dec.	3	Harry E. Kendall	Nov.	24
Porter W. Lowe	Dec.	3	Joseph M. Peirce, 2d	Nov.	24
William Campbell	Dec.	3	Harold H. Starkey	Nov.	24

1920

Irving H. Fuller	Feb.	11	Edward W. Tinsley	Nov.	24
Milton H. Abell	Feb.	11	Fred L. Wallace	Nov.	24
Albert E. Brown	Feb.	11	Philip F. Waterhouse	Nov.	24
George A. Stancombe	Feb.	11	Paul F. Goward	Nov.	24
Loring Burgess, Jr.	Feb.	11	Richard V. Worthen	Nov.	24
George W. Moffat	Feb.	11	William Teto	Dec.	8
Albert I. Field	Mar.	10	Howard B. Dial	Dec.	8
James Pollock	Mar.	10	Harry O. Williams	Dec.	8
Hubert F. Lufkin	Mar.	10	Ralph A. J. Wellington	Dec.	8
Ellis B. Corliss	Mar.	10	Charles E. Pile	Dec.	8
Frank A. Peterson	Apr.	28	Harold Simpson	Dec.	8
Carlton L. Taylor	Apr.	28	Edward A. Moore	Dec.	8
John N. Alquist	Apr.	28	Charles G. Zink	Dec.	8
James C. Cameron	Apr.	28	James B. Emerson	Dec.	8
Adelard J. Cote	June	2	George K. Hannah, Jr.	Dec.	8
George V. Upton	June	2	Orrin J. Foss	Dec.	8
Erving F. Lowe	June	2			

1921

Raymond T. Parkhurst	June	30	Harry A. Sturtevant	Jan.	5
Levi E. Ferson	June	30	Henry A. Rowton	Jan.	5
David W. Tinsley	June	30	Richard E. H. Tucker	Jan.	5
James M. Bent	June	30	Charles W. Thompson	Jan.	5
James Gardner	June	30	Ralph W. Maggs	Jan.	5
Charles B. Wheeler	June	30	Dana D. Goodwin	Jan.	5
James E. Lull	June	30	George L. Parmenter	Jan.	5
Solomon E. Story	June	30	Samuel Fox	Jan.	19
George E. Patoel	July	1	Ray N. Wellington	Jan.	19
Franklyn H. Horton	July	1	Charles E. Tisdale	Jan.	19
Andrew E. Harper	July	1	Arthur Pollard	Jan.	19
Robert D. Wass	July	1	Harry N. Howard	Jan.	19
John F. Masten	July	1	Morin Falk	Jan.	19
George E. Stevens	Nov.	5	William W. Cogill	Jan.	19
Robert H. Holton	Nov.	10	Raymond E. Channing	Mar.	16

George A. Carlson	Mar. 16	Hugh B. Ferguson	Apr. 27
William T. Stapleton	Mar. 16	Robert S. Lufkin	Apr. 27
Austin H. Welch	Mar. 16	John A. Fyfe	June 29
August H. Morgner	Mar. 16	Harold S. Lees	June 29
Herman A. Seidel	Mar. 16	Roy C. Witmer	June 29
Ralph H. Westgate	Mar. 16		

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Samuel Clarke	John H. Lockey
Timothy Whiting	Thomas W. Davis
Moses Thomas	J. P. Lockey
John G. Davis	Henry G. Greene
Charles Russell	Alonzo Eaton
Nahum Rice	James L. Chapman
Clark Mirick	J. A. Kendall
William Howe	George H. Hayes
Merrill Davis	E. W. Coffin
Hezekiah F. Stone	Frank E. Carpenter
Luke Eastman	Ernest Hoffman
John Whitney	Albert H. Burgess
Isaac Bassett	E. Tyler Greenwood
Jonathan Bailey	Frank C. Gill
Isaac Davis	Edmund Bacon
Eli Smith	Herbert H. Bolles
Mannasah Willard	Rev. J. Mowbray White
Reuben Blood	Henry L. Sawyer
David Wilder	Everett W. Coates
Ezra E. Gates	Arthur E. Sears
C. Carter	Frederick W. Kidd
Thomas C. Upton	George A. Simington
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A. H. Caryl	Rev. Abram Conklin
James C. Freeland	Louis R. Damon
J. G. Tenney	Roy E. Greenwood
S. A. Miller	

ORGANIZATION

THOMAS ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

1922-'23

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King	Leon C. Barnes	M. of 3d V.	Edward A. Moore
Scribe	Alfred Woolacott	M. of 2d V....	Harold H. Starkey
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Secretary	Frederick A. Currier	Senior Steward ...	Milton H. Abell
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C. of H.	Harry W. Dole	Tyler	Joseph M. Peirce
P. S.	Frank Robinson		

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F. A. Currier
E. A. A. Lamere

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District Deputy Grand High Priest, Eleventh Capitular District,

R. E. Forrest A. Bliss of Fitchburg

Grand King of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts

R. E. Fred A. Young of Leominster

MASONIC CALENDAR

Ancient Craft Masons commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it Anno Lucis (A.L.), "in the year of light."

Scottish Rite, same as Ancient Craft, except the Jewish chronology is used, Anno Mundi (A.M.), "in the year of the world."

Royal Arch Masons date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, Anno Inventionis (A.I.), "in the year of the discovery."

Royal and Select Masters date from the year in which the temple of Solomon was completed, Anno Depositionis (A. Dep.), "in the year of the deposit."

Knights Templars commence their era with the organization of their Order, Anno Ordinis (A.O.), "in the year of the Order."

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

Ancient Craft Masons—Add 4000 years to the common era. Thus: 1921 and 4000—5921.

Scottish Rite—Add 3760 to the common era. Thus: 1921 and 3760—5681. After September add another year.

Royal Arch—Add 530 years to the vulgar era. Thus: 1921 and 530—2451.

Royal and Select Masters—Add 1000 to the common era. Thus: 1921 and 1000—2921.

Knights Templars—From the Christian era take 1118. Thus: 1118 from 1921—803.

THE LAST LODGE

[The National Masonic Hymn of Saxony, always sung before
closing of the Lodge]

When the last of the stars, dimly flashing,
Sees old Time to its end hasten on,
When planets to ruin are dashing,
And the sun's light is pallid and wan;
Through the halls where the Masons are founding
Their Temple majestic and grand,
Shall be heard that last cry, loudly sounding;
Hasten, brothers! the morn is at hand!

East and West, North and South, through all nations,
The work at that call will have ceased,
And the brethren, observing their stations,
Shall look in calm faith to the East;
Joining hands over valleys and highlands,
Where each stands, in the land of his birth,
Shall be seen, o'er all continents and islands,
But ONE LODGE on the face of the earth.

To the Master's stern voice loudly crying:
Have the Masons obeyed My commands?
Comes the voice of the craftsmen, replying:
Look with grace on the work of our hands!

